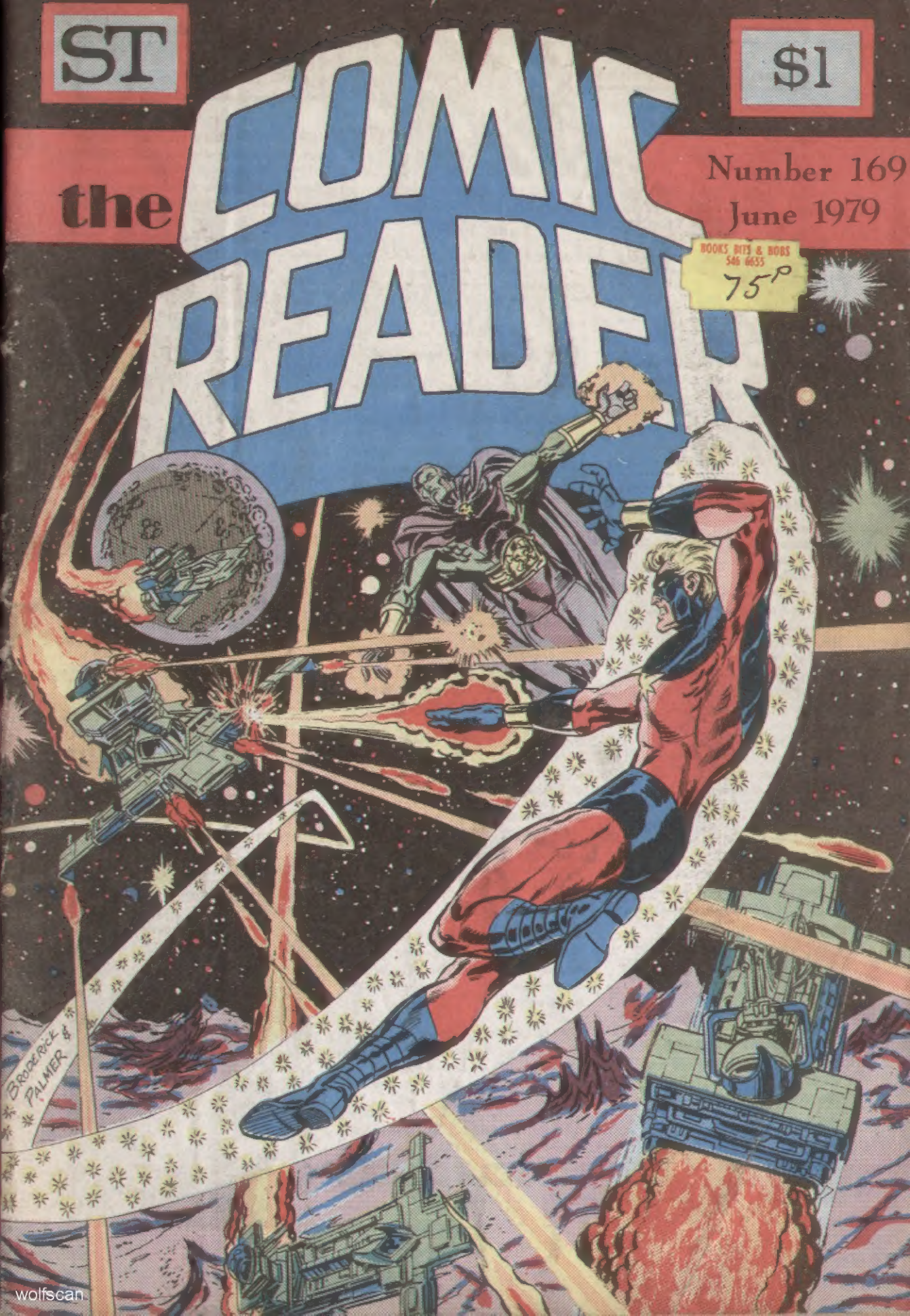
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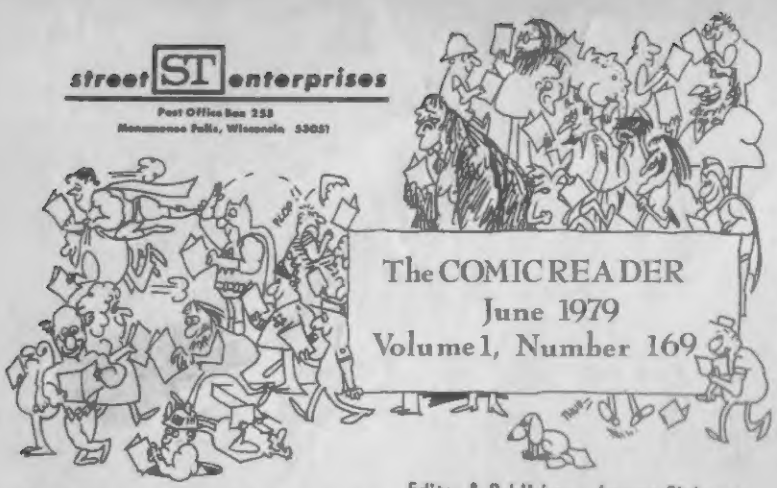

The COMIC READER
June 1979
Volume 1, Number 169

Our front cover: The original version of the cover for the never published CAPTAIN MARVEL #63 by Pat Broderick and Tom Palmer; our back cover: a presentation drawing for the new ROM comic by John Romita, Jr. and Marie Severin. Both are © 1979 Marvel Comics Group.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DC News 2
TCR Message 3
Marvel News 4
Warren News 5
Gold Key News & Coming Comics . 5
Charlton Coming Comics 6
Et Al 6
TCR Mailboat 7
Fanzine Checklist 11
Harvey Coming Comics 11
Media Photo News 15
Dick Duck, Duck Dick 16
Bullet Crow 17
Fandom Confidential 18
The Menomonee Falls Gazette ... 19
Pocket Checklist 31
TCR Top 100 Comic Books 48
Hembeck 49
Review 49
Comic Strip Circus 50
Media Review 51
Archie Coming Comics 54
Marvel Coming Comics 55
DC Coming Comics 59

NOTE: The number following your name on your mailing wrapper is the last issue of your subscription.

BACK ISSUES: TCR #94-96, 98, 100-111, 113-116, 118, 120-124, 126-128, 131, 133-139, 142, 143 are 50¢ each. #145-151, 153, 154, 156-163 are 75¢ each. #164, 165, 167, 168 are $1.25 each. All other issues are sold out.

Editor & Publisher - Jerome Sinkovec

Chief Editor - Michael Tiefenbacher

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Contributors: Richard Burton, Paulette Carroll, Eddie Eddings, Jim Engel, Chuck Fiala, Clay Geerdes, Doug Hazlewood, Fred Hembeck, Larry Houston, Jacob Moraine, R. Blabbit

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
U.S. Canada and Mexico
6 issues: $4.75 12 issues: $9.00
Sample copy: $1.00
FIRST CLASS, U.S., Canada, Mexico
6 issues: $7.75 12 issues: $15.00
Overseas: Europe, South America
6 issues: $12.00 12 issues: $23.00
Australia, Asia, Africa
6 issues: $13.80 12 issues: $26.60
[All overseas copies sent Air Mail]

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Second class mail is not forwarded if you've changed cities so be sure to let us know as soon as you move to prevent issues from being lost. Allow three weeks if possible.

CHECKS & MONEY ORDERS: Make payable to Street Enterprises. Because of exchange rates and bank charges, no non-U.S. checks are accepted. This includes Canada.

ADVERTISING RATES: Full page: $40
Half page: $25 Centerspread: $90
Ad deadlines: two months prior to the issue's cover date. [Deadline for #171 is June 20th.]

DEALER RATES: 10-24 copies: 60¢ each 25-49 copies: 50¢ each 50-199 copies: 45¢ each 200 or more copies: 40¢ each. Ship billing begins after prepayment of first two issues.

THE COMIC READER is published monthly by Street Enterprises, Post Office Box 255, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53051. Phone: (414) 251-6933. Printed by Shinners Publications, Inc. Entire contents, except where otherwise noted, is © Copyright 1979 by Street Enterprises. Application to mail at second class rates is pending at Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin.

DC News

The title of FIVE-STAR SUPER-HERO SPECTACULAR has been whittled down to a more-manageable DC SUPER-HERO SPECTACULAR, which also covers them if they decide to put more or fewer super-heroes into the package (they already had six, if you count Black Canary and Green Arrow as more than one super-hero).

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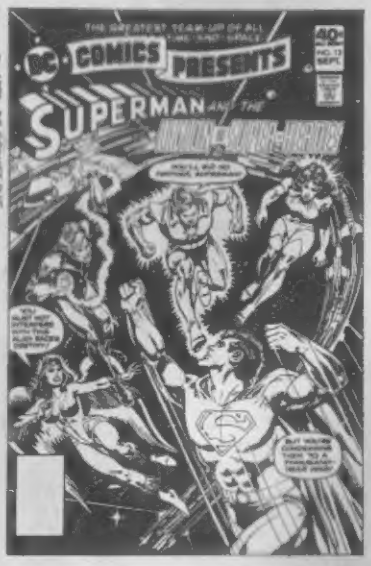
The two one-shot "Blue-Ribbon Digests have gotten official titles: SECRET ORIGINS OF SUPER-HEROES and SGT ROCK'S PRIZE BATTLE TALES.

The June releases will contain new subscription order forms offering a year's subscription to the 40¢ monthlies for only $4.00 (33 1/3¢ each), and each editor is preparing special one-page promo pages plugging the new rates.



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In an adventure following the JLA-JSA team-up, the Justice League will be inviting Black Lightning to join the group but the invitation will be complicated by the interference of The Regulator, a villain that controls the animal vermin of Metropolis. Other new villains will also debut in that issue.

DC COMICS PRESENTS #15 will feature the Superman-Atom team-up, and then #16 should finally present the Superman-Black Lightning pairing that goes back over a year at least. #17 will be written by Gerry Conway and will likely clear up any hanging plot threads left after cancellation as Superman teams up with Firestorm, The Nuclear Man.

ADVENTURE COMICS #466 will feature the untold Justice Society of America story that explains exactly what happened to everybody between that final issue of ALL-STAR in '51 and their reappearance in the early '60s. Paul Levitz will, of course, be the writer.

Green Lantern will soon be attending his own wedding -- but the question is: to whom? Will Carol Ferris be more or less than just his boss again? Gil Kane did the cover for #123.

Bat Lash will put in another appearance in Scalphunter's strip in WEIRD WESTERN TALES.

Mike Nasser has returned to work regularly for DC, and will be doing the BLACK LIGHTNING strip for DC SUPER-HERO SPECTACULAR. He is also doing a sword and sorcery story for HOUSE OF MYSTERY and a story for TIME WARP.

That J.M. DeMatteis-Gil Kane story that was slated for TIME WARP #1 has been rescheduled for #2 because its theme was too similar to another story in #1. Instead, a Paul Levitz-Jim Aparo story will appear in its place. Jack C. Harris and Joe Orlando will do the story and art on another tale for the book.

A future issue of THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD will feature Batman solo against Ra's Al Ghul. Denny O'Neil will script.

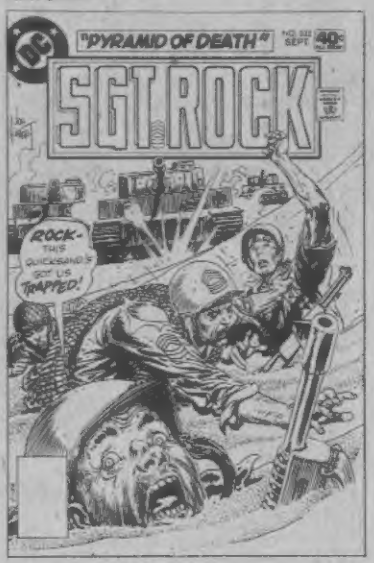
An upcoming Christmas issue of JONAH HEX which involves Jonah's father will be drawn by Dan Spiegle.

Warlord will be travelling back into time to search for fabled Atlantis in the guise of his previous lives, as secret links between Atlantis and Skartaris are revealed.

The Flash will soon find out who has put out the contract on his life.

Kurt Schaffenberger will pencil the SUPERMAN story in ACTION COMICS #501 since Curt Swan did the sixty-four pages for ACTION #500, Superman's life story.

Dan Adkins is inking the Steve Ditko-drawn BOUNCING BOY AND DUO DAMSEL story for the back-up of a future issue of LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES.



TCR Message

Beginning this month, THE COMIC READER is instituting what we believe to be the first monthly listing of sales of the Top 100 comic books sold in comic shops across the country. While this does not reflect actual sales -- newsstand sales are significantly different from fandom sales -- it does give an accurate picture of what we comic fans are buying. We've started with twenty participating comic shops, and expect more participation by TCR dealers in the coming months. The chart will be valuable to dealers -- if there's a title they're not carrying, or not carrying in sufficient number, the chart will give them a good idea

[Continued on page 50]

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Marvel News

Edgar Rice Burroughs and Marvel have come to a parting of the ways. TARZAN is cancelled with #29, and JOHN CARTER, WARLORD OF MARS is dead as of #28, both on sale in July. Unless Tarzan is almost immediately licensed to another publisher, it will be the first time in over thirty-two years that the book isn't being regularly published.

The TARZAN and JOHN CARTER annuals, apparently, haven't been affected, as work continues on the JOHN CARTER issue by Chris Claremont, Alan Weiss and Tony DeZuniga.

At least two of the stories that were plotted as Tarzan adventures will instead become Ka-Zar vehicles.

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MAN-THING is back on the schedule as a bi-monthly by Mike Fleisher and Jim Mooney beginning in the fall.

ROM, another title based on a Japanese-inspired robot toy, will become a Marvel title in September of this year. Rom is the mightiest warrior of the planet Galador, a cyborg knight who comes to Earth to avenge the rape of his planet by the Dire Wraiths, a race of evil, sorcerous beings. Bill Mantlo, Sal Buscema and an unchosen inker will handle the book, with Mary Jo Duffy editing. Parker Brothers will market the toy in the fall.

There will be a MICRONAUTS ANNUAL and a STAR WARS ANNUAL this year, as Marvel takes advantage of two of fandom's best-selling titles.

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HOWARD THE DUCK Magazine's first issue will appear the first week of July.

GHOST RIDER is going monthly as of issue #39.

In another change, the story by Marv Wolfman and Steve Ditko originally meant as a GODZILLA fill-in issue will appear in MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #5 as TAKO SHAMARA, THE DRAGON LORD, with the artwork and storyline altered. Following TAKO, ICEMAN appears in MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #6 by Mary Jo Duffy and George Perez.

Wendy Pini, who turns out the thrice-yearly ELFQUEST for her own company, will be doing an eight-page full-color fantasy story for EPIC ILLUSTRATED.

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Above is a presentation page done for the ROM project by John Romita, Jr. and Marie Severin.

MARVEL PREVIEW #19 will feature KULL THE DESTROYER. #20 will star MOON KNIGHT by Doug Moench and Bill Sienkowiecz.

Jim Shooter will take over the editing of SPIDER-WOMAN with #20, and Michael Fleisher will be the new scripter as of #21.

WHAT IF? #17 will be "What If Ghost Rider, Spider-Woman and Captain Marvel Had Remained Villains?" and will be by Steven Grant, Carmine Infantino, Frank Springer, Mike Esposito and Pablo Marcos.

Following the currently running Project: Pegasus sequence in MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE, The Thing will team-up with The Human Torch and then The Impossible Man. Following that, Starhawk, Moondragon and the High Evolutionary will be featured in a three-part "cosmic" story drawn by Jerry Bingham.

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Gene Day has been named regular inker of George Perez's pencils on MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE.

Jerry Bingham will become the new penciller on IRON MAN with #130, with John Romita, Jr. moving over to the layouts on SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN with #38.

Fu Manchu will be returning to the pages of his son's book in a MASTER OF KUNG FU story featuring The Illuminatus.

The Avengers will soon have their final confrontation with Peter Gyrich in a storyline that will guest-star the fine law team of Murdock, Hogarth and Bale.

Dan Green will not be the inker on POWER MAN after all. Bob Layton has done a couple of issues as has Al Gordon, but no regular inker has yet been set.

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Rich Buckler is the new regular penciller on CAPTAIN AMERICA beginning with #241. Steve Ditko turned the book down.

Upcoming plots for GHOST RIDER involve Ghost Rider's falling in with a religious cult who, on orders from their leader, commit suicide, and a story involving a nuclear power plant. Weren't they once called Timely Comics?

Ed Norton has joined the Marvel production staff. All jokes concerning manholes, sewer workers, Captain Video and Spade Cooley records should be forwarded directly to Marvel.

Warren News

Frank Thorne's graphic novel, GHITA OF ALIZARR, will be serialized in 1984 beginning this month. A presentation page from the female warrior strip appears on this page.

© 1979, FRANK THORNE

Two more reprint (we believe) issues of WARREN PRESENTS will appear in July: WARREN PRESENTS: ALIEN INVASION #3 and WARREN PRESENTS: GALACTIC REBELLION #4.

Coming Comics

VAMPIRELLA No. 80, August. This issue's Vampirella story is "The Dragon Queen" by Bill DuBay and Gonzalo Mayo. Other stories include: "Like Father Like Son" by Cary Bates and Leopoldo Duranona; "Transference" by Bruce Jones and Jose Ortiz; "The Eternal Triangle" by Bates and Martin Salvador; and "John Donne And The Space Pirates" by Adames and Pablo Marcos. [6/12]

1984 No. 7, August. The first chapter of Frank Thorne's GHITA OF ALIZARR graphic novel is presented, along with the regular features by Bill DuBay, Esteban Maroto, et al. [6/19]

EERIE No. 103, August. Another chapter of ROOK is featured by Bill DuBay and Lee Elias. Other stories include: "Beastworld" by Pablo Marcos, "Horizon Seeker" by Leo Duranona, and "Prey For The Wolf" by Cary Bates and Budd Lewis. [6/26]

GHITA
OF ALIZARR
BY FRANK THORNE
SHE CAME FROM THE STREETS OF ALIZARR TO BECOME THE KING'S FAVORITE IN A KINGDOM THAT FLOURISHED TEN THOUSAND YEARS BEFORE THE BIRTH OF CHRIST. TRANSFORMED BY A SAVAGE ACT OF BARBARISM, GHITA BECAME THE MATCH FOR ANY MAN, AND THE LIBERATOR OF ALIZARR, SACRED CITY OF THE GODDESS TAMMUZ.
A GRAPHIC NOVEL

CREEPY No. 110, August. Stories in this issue are: "Snapper" by Bill Kelly and Leopoldo Duranona; "Demon Hunter" by Nicola Cuti and Auraleon; "Alien Story" by Bill DuBay; "Clockmaker" by Null (and void?); "Sunset Farms" by Gerry Boudreau and Rudy Nebres; "Dreams Of Grandeur" by Budd Lewis, Val Mayerik and Klaus Janson; "The Binderwood Bewilderment" by Laidlaw and Isidro Moniz. [6/26]

FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND No. 156, August. [6/26]

Gold Key News

The stockholders of Western Publishing will be voting in early June on whether to accept the bid to takeover the company by Mattel, Inc. If approved, it will present an interesting conflict: Mattel owns American rights to SHOGUN WARRIORS, currently published by Marvel. (Similarly, DC's parent company, Warner Communications owns the Warner Bros. characters licensed by Gold Key.)

Coming Comics

BEEP BEEP, THE ROAD RUNNER No. 82, August. New. [6/7]

BUGS BUNNY No. 211, August. New. [6/7]

DAFFY DUCK No. 124, August. New. [6/7]

Walt Disney DONALD DUCK No. 210,

August. Reprints. [6/7]

Walt Disney HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUIE No. 58, August. New. [6/7]

Walt Disney MICKEY MOUSE No. 198, August. Reprints. [6/7]

THE PINK PANTHER No. 67, August. New. [6/7]

PORKY PIG No. 90, August. New. [6/7]

Walt Disney UNCLE SCROOGE No. 167, August. Carl Barks reprints. [6/7]

YOSEMITE SAM No. 62, August. New. [6/7]

Walt Disney BEAGLE BOYS VS. UNCLE SCROOGE No. 6, August. New. [6/14]

Walt Disney CHIP 'N' DALE No. 60, August. New. [6/14]

Walt Disney DAISY AND DONALD No. 39, August. New. [6/14]

LOONEY TUNES No. 27, August. New. [6/14]

SUPER GOOF No. 54, August. New. [6/14]

TOM AND JERRY No. 321, August. Reprints. [6/14]

TWEETY AND SYLVESTER No. 96, August. New. [6/14]

WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES No. 467, August. Half new, half reprint. [6/14]

WOODY WOODPECKER No. 181, August. New. [6/14]

BATTLE OF THE PLANETS No. 2, August. New stories by Win Mortimer. [6/28]

BEETLE BAILY No. 128, August. New. [6/28]

BORIS KARLOFF TALES OF MYSTERY No. 93, August. New. [6/28]

BUCK ROGERS No. 2, August. Number one appeared in '64; this issue reprints the tabloid movie adaptation. [6/28]

BULLWINKLE No. 22, August. Reprints. [6/28]

LITTLE LULU No. 254, August. Reprints. [6/28]

POPEYE THE SAILOR No. 149, August. Reprints. [6/28]

RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! No. 90, August. New. [6/28]

UFO AND OUTER SPACE No. 22, August. [6/28]

Walt Disney WINNIE THE POOH No. 14, August. All-new, no ads. [6/28]

Charlton Coming Comics

We slipped up last month. The Charltons listed as being on sale in March are on sale in April, April in May, and May in June. Therefore, these will come out this month:

ATTACK No. 17, September. [6/7]

I LOVE YOU No. 125, September. [6/7]

BILLY THE KID No. 131, September. [6/14]

WAR No. 16, September. [6/14]

GHOSTLY TALES No. 138, September. [6/21]

SECRET ROMANCE No. 45, September. [6/21]

FIGHTIN' ARMY No. 141, October. [6/28]

OUTLAWS OF THE WEST No. 84, October. [6/28]

Et Al

Bantam Books entered the comic book business in March of this year with the publication of two "Skylark Illustrated Story" paperbacks. The two we've seen in the 5 1/4" x 7 3/4", 64 page format are THE MAN OF BRONZE, a DOC SAVAGE adventure adapted by Horace J. Elias and drawn by Maurice Whitman, and STORIES FROM THE TWILIGHT ZONE by Rod Serling adapted by Elias and drawn by Carl Pfeufer. Each black and white book adapts its source material (the TWILIGHT ZONE features adaptations of TV episodes including "The Monsters Are Due On Maple Street") rather simply, with numerous vocabulary words defined for grade school readers. (Interestingly, the TWILIGHT ZONE book appeared the month after Gold Key's contract with Cayuga Productions ran out.) Each book costs $1.25.

As you may have noted, the color striping (the small squares of color on the very tops of May comics' pages) has begun, with the colors rotating as follows: black, blue, green, purple and red. The publishers hope that this will ensure their books four weeks' newsstand life.

The Comics Magazine Association of America, Inc. held their 25th anniversary luncheon in Bal Harbour, Florida March 28th, and Comics Code President John L. Goldwater was the featured speaker. The following transcript comes from the CMAA news letter.

JOHN L. GOLDWATER's address (in part): In reviewing the 25 years of the Comic Magazine Association, I cannot start without paying tribute to the original star of the comic world: Superman! I am grateful to Superman because he brought about a brand new industry -- our comic book industry -- which has flourished since the late '30s, when Superman first made an appearance in a comic book. The astounding success of the Superman movie is a further tribute to the longevity of this character and to the perpetuation of the comic book industry. Again, I must say that I am grateful because Superman was the catalyst for the creation of Archie, which has been MY bread and butter for many, many years. Superman is the prototype -- in the highest degree -- of the adventure-fantasy type character: or the antithesis, which lent itself to the creation of a normal, believable, everyday, next-door neighbor character like Archie.

Comics are a uniquely American product and have consistently maintained their position as the most popular form of children's reading. And, because comics provide good, clean entertainment to youngsters, they have become a recognized tool in the educational process. The rapidly increasing use of comic books in the classroom is the outstanding phenomenon that has emerged. Teachers have found them extremely useful in teaching remedial reading.

A number of leading universities, in fact, give courses in comics. Numerous articles on the subject have appeared in educational journals. A very significant off-shoot of this trend is the upsurge of interest by libraries, particularly school libraries, in stocking comic books to meet the demand by teachers as well as students. I might say that AMERICANA IN FOUR COLORS, a book I wrote some years back, explanatory of the comic book industry, is also stocked in practically every library and university.

The Comics Code Authority has received thousands of letters from these sources requesting copies of the Code. This is in addition to the requests that come in every day for Code information from parents, governmental and private agencies concerned with the welfare of children and every imaginable source.

This brings me to the Comics Code.

I prefer to call it the CODE OF ETHICS, for it requires its publisher-members to adhere to the most stringent set of standards for their editorial and advertising material. The Code is the bed-rock on which the Comics Magazine Association of America was founded. Would anyone dispute the fact that in this day of agressive consumerism, legislative and judicial concern over media, that the Code has provided a bulwark -- as close to being trouble-free to its publishers, distributors, wholesalers and retailers as any medium can hope to be?

The publishers, national distributors, printers and engravers who are members of the CMAA, and who have supported and adhered to the Code from the beginning deserve the highest commendation. Their sense of responsibility has won recognition and praise from the highest governmental sources, as well as private organizations such as the American Federation of Women's Clubs, the National Parents and Teachers Association, and the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, which granted the Comics Magazine Association its Distinguished Achievement Award.

The Code operation has been successful for twenty-five years because it did not stop with the enactment of a few high-sounding principles; it has been enforced carefully, reasonably and responsibly, throughout its years of existence.

There remains, unfortunately, a small segment of the industry who persist in remaining outside the program. Their protestations that they maintain an equally high standard of material on an individual basis is a denial of industry-responsibility. I firmly believe that those who do not participate in the industry program are rendering a disservice to their own companies and to the industry as a whole.

As I have indicated, the CMAA, in its twenty-five years of existence, has done other things besides enforcing its Code, although that is its major activity. Basically, the CMAA is an Association engaged in advancing and protecting the interests of the comic book industry, just as the CPDA is the trade association of the magazine wholesalers and the IPDA is the trade organization of the national distributors.

I will not take up your time to delineate the numerous and various activities, of a trade association nature, that CMAA has engaged in through the years, and is engaging in now. We have promoted the sale of comics through publications, exhibits and attendence at wholesaler and retailer conventions. Much of the enormous favorable coverage about comic books in newspapers and magazines emanated from the CMAA office, and more was based on the information supplied it.

TCR Mailboat

JOHN BYRNE, Calgary, Alberta: About two years ago I was sitting on a panel at a Creation Con, when one of the fans in the audience asked me how long it took me to produce a book. I replied nine working days. Off to my right, I became aware of a Big Name Pro, also on the panel, quietly crumpling to the floor.

Well, I now do a book in SIX working days, at three pages of full pencils per day, or four working days if I'm doing breakdowns (as on FANTASTIC FOUR). And I work five hours a day.

The above is not to be taken as bragging. That I am fast is no more a cause for conceit than the fact that I have blond hair (tho' I have swell blond hair). The point I'm groping for is that your quotes from Adkins' letter had approximately the same effect on me as I had on the Big Name two years ago. I find it incredible, in this business, the number of people who cannot seem to make a decent living. Naturally, I'm looking from the wrong end, having speed on my side, but aren't there people out there who are willing to work a regular nine-to-five shift, and produce, say, two pages a day? Even at starting wages that's something like seventy dollars a day. I could (and in fact DO) live on that.

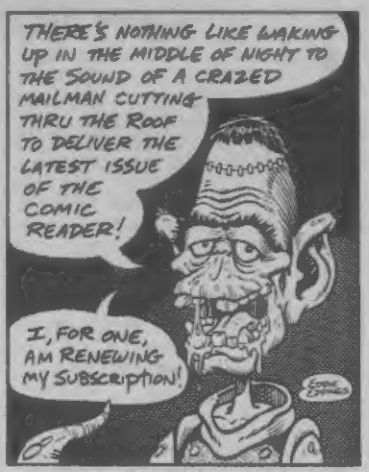
I do not refer specifically to Dan Adkins here, or anyone else you named, but I sometimes get the impression that the greatest turnover in terms of people leaving the industry is in recently-turned pros who expected to make mega-bucks for doing next to nothing. "Hey, I can do comics! That's EASY!"

But, of course, it ISN'T. I'm just as wasted after five hours of slaving over a hot drawing board as is any accountant after eight hours over the books. That's why I don't do four books a month. Or even five. I could, probably, and Byrne's Law indicates I'd probably turn out better stuff, since at three pages a day my competency is lightyears beyond what it was at two pages. But then I'd probably lose the thing that keeps me in comics, while everyone else skips off to make mucho moola. I'd lose the FUN.

That's why I stay. That's why I work as hard as I do. That's why I love it. If I also make big bucks, fine. But those who come in looking only for the money should go elsewhere.

[Undoubtedly, many of those who have left the field wouldn't put in the forty hours a week. However, there are those who simply can't get the work, since there is a finite number of books published each month. And that's where the real frustration comes in. MT]

TOM MASON, 1657 Neptune Avenue, Wilmington, California 90744: I must tell you how much I appreciated your COMMENT section in #168. My son is a gifted artist and art major in school. He has learned a lot from the comics and likes the medium and its excitement. I showed him Dan Adkins' comments on how much he cleared certain years as a comic book artist. Much to my surprise, he was not in the least surprised. He was well up on his facts of (comic) life. As much as he loves the comics, he would like to be able to eat; pretty realistic view for a 16 year old... and sad, too. Just how many young and imaginative talents are there out there whose work we will never see due to the nature of the comics industry business structure? I have been an avid comics fan since the late '30s. I find it tiring at times to see the same names over and over repeating themselves. I find it impossible to distinguish between the unoriginal formula covers that abound... I buy books and don't read them... just file them. I keep looking for that sense of wonder I had in the forties... maybe tomorrow.


THERE'S NOTHING LIKE WAKING UP IN THE MIDDLE OF NIGHT TO THE SOUND OF A CRAZED MAILMAN CUTTING THRU THE ROOF TO DELIVER THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE COMIC READER!
I, FOR ONE, AM RENEWING MY SUBSCRIPTION!

GARY RICKER, 444 Roslyn, Chicago, IL 60614: The new COMIC READER overjoys me! It's great to see Street Enterprises come up with a -- these aren't my words -- "commercially viable" magazine. Here's hoping you guys cross the, uh, Red Sea.

Noticed that the "National Star" (Is that the right title? You know, those supermarket gossip rags?) of fandom is moving in for a head-to-head monthly battle -- more Hawaiian toilet jokes, an in-depth study of the Shah of Iran's comic collection, and tons of bad spot illos -- can you wait? Let's increase our pass-along readership in the future, okay?

Am especially proud of my fan (and otherwise) friends Jim Engel and Chuch Fiala, and their fine, white paper-color efforts. Any chance you can upgrade the stock in the center

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STEVE MITCHELL
DENNIS O'NEIL
BOB SMITH
LEN WEIN
MARV WOLFMAN
and more to come!

CHICAGO COMICON 1219a W. Devon Chicago, IL 60660

_____ ADVANCE THREE-DAY ADMISSIONS @ $7.00 EACH BEFORE JULY 1st.
($9.00 at the door)

Enclosed is $_____ for advance admissions.

SPECIAL COMICON ROOM RATES. _____ $28.00 Single _____ $36.00 Double

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

Send no money for room reservations. Rooms will be held until 6:00 unless notified.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

of the book, say? And run all the strips there? I realize the strips -- all of them -- are still a "bonus" feature, but a little care might make them an attraction. (The Milwaukee Journal's proximity-rule DOES rankle though, doesn't it?) While I am praising Jim and Chuck -- and it's about time Engel got a national forum; we midwesterners have been somewhat selfish -- can I ask you to knock off this STAR HAWKS crap? And more POPEYE! Whither KRAZY KAT? Shoot, run it again! Did 9500 people see the GAZETTE? The GUARDIAN?

And what's all this talk about fannish fumetti?

How about a page set aside for classifieds? It's an interested enough audience, I would think.

Well, as Irv Forbush once said, "To pay, or not to pay, there's no question."

[The recent request -- well, it was a might stronger than a request -- by Marvel Comics that we cease printing HOWARD THE DUCK sort of negates most of the "possibles" on our list of currently running adventure strips. And you must recall that, despite our respect for KRAZY KAT and even POPEYE, most of our readership is of the Marvel-only type, and would not, in all probability, appreciate 25 pages of either. We're attempting to give a lot of our former GAZETTE subscribers something of what they subscribed for without getting sued or spending money for stuff we won't be able to print for a couple of years. So, aside from STAR HAWKS, SUPERMAN, MODESTY and POPEYE (with both BATMAN and BEN CASEY ending), the only current probable additions to the comics line-up are non-current foreign or humor strips we can run without getting in legal trouble, like KRAZY, or some of the ends of stories we didn't finish (like JEFF HAWKE, SEEKERS, etc.).

As I've mentioned before, the current configuration of white-and-newsprint is the only one possible with the press we're using. Upgrading the paper stock will have to wait until we are out of that Red Sea you mentioned.

Classifieds are a possibility, just as soon as we've got the time. And we're working on that.

I know you wanted to mention it, but I'll take the responsibility for it: Jim Engel did the layouts for the series of Mark I SUPERMAN greeting cards that Dick Giordano did, as well as many other cards for Mark I. Those of you who enjoy DICK DUCK be sure to seek them out. MT]

GARY BROWN, 2241 West Pensacola Street, Apt. #95, Tallahassee, Florida 32304: Received the April '79 issue of TCR and wanted to make some random comments on several news items, plus the Alley Awards.

It was good to see Bob Bolling getting some credit on his first LITTLE ARCHIE story in years. The story, "Silver Flash," was written, pencilled and (for the most part) inked by Bolling. He has also done four more stories (writing and pencils) and they will appear in subsequent issues of LA. Three notes on the story: Bolling signed it and they allowed the signature to remain, something rare at Archie these days. He also slipped in a model of "The Pride of Walvis Bay," the ship Dr. Doom and Chester (Archie's archenemies) operated from. And lastly, at my suggestion, he snuck Little Am-

brose into the story (playing broom hockey) on page five.

It was good to see the Alley Awards and due to the moving and all I didn't have the opportunity to vote. Next year for sure. But there are, as usual, some very disappointing "winners." The big problem comes in the fact that most of the voters read Marvel and DC and that is it. They rarely pick up other comics and therefore rarely see the work of other writers/artists and production people.

It is interesting to note that the artists for best (Favorite?) Comedy are at the most borderline choices. I don't think it reflects the lack of good cartoonists. Rather it shows the lack of knowledge of the voters in this area. Not that Gene Colan, Fred Hembeck or Scott Shaw should not receive the credit due (I consider all three among my favorites), but there are so many other people doing such quality work month after month who are virtually ignored. That we have nominated people like Steve Ditko, Jack Kirby and Frank Robbins, etc. shows a gross ignorance on the part of most voters. Why not skip a category you have no clear choice in or know nothing about?

I wish I could recommend a solution for this type of voting, but the only good one I can think of is to have a board nominating people and that runs into more problems than it solves. I guess we'll have to put up with this type of stupidity until the worm turns.

And a few questions which probably come up when comic strips are given awards. What if Stan Lee had won for Best Writer on a Drama strip? [Note: He did.] Would he have been given (or accepted) the award even though he no longer writes the strip? Not to single out Lee, since many artists and writers have ghosts now on their strips, but would the policy be to give the award to the right person or just let the "name" have it on his conscience. Interesting problem.

Let me end this by congratulating you on the new format and the greater content in the pages of TCR. I'm still not satisfied with the strips in the back (and I know other strippers who aren't either) but considering the position you are in, I can see no other way out. Good luck in the future.

Oh yeah, one more thing: I'd really like to see TCR have a regular review column for comics. I know it's been done in the past by many fanzines and it always seems to come out boring and petty. What could be good is a comic a month, picking out a book or single issue for some significance and not merely at random. No ratings; no recommended or not; just a competent review of one of the better comics each month. Eh?

[You may take it as a measure of my respect for your opinion that I've taken your suggestion and a comic review column will be appearing regularly (in fact, it starts this issue).

Stan Lee's award for writer on a drama strip is valid since it covers the time that he was still writing it. The thing is, in most cases the ghost isn't known by us, or may, in fact, be more than one person. However, in cases like John Cullen Murphy or Henry Schlensker (who only recently began getting credit) where we do know the "real" writer or artist, we'll try to give them the award.

The Comedy category was a disappointment to me also. I had assumed that the funny animal, Archie and Harvey contingents would do most of the voting there; or at the very least, artists and writers working in the humor magazines (MAD, CRACKED, etc.) would gather enough votes to make it. (Actually, a lot of people did abstain in that category and any kind of vote for one of the REALLY eligible people -- Dan Spiegle, Warren Tufts, Paul Murry -- or any of those unsung artists that we don't know about because they don't get credited, would have been cited.) This year, I'll make sure I ask that people who DO have knowledge of today's humor comics vote. And those who wanna use the award as a penalty for bad work abstain. MT]

ROY THOMAS, Marvel Comics: For months I've been refraining (as I promised myself to do) from comment upon the statements of fans, whether pro or con. "Fandom for the fans," sez I.

Recently I even let some ridiculous statements by Joe Staton, a fellow pro, pass uncommented-upon in the COMICS JOURNAL ("I wonder what Roy Thomas will do when his mother dies," and other tasteless if harmless remarks), because who needs the aggravation over a momentary lapse in taste?

However, when Frank Thorne, by a careful selection of words in the latest TCR ("RED SONJA is dead. She lasted four issues after I left her.") attempts to give the totally wrong impression that somehow RED SONJA died BECAUSE he left her, as he so clearly means to do, it is time to speak out, albeit briefly.

As most readers of TCR over the age of 12 will know, comics sales figures are always months behind the current issues. Thus, obviously, even to Frank, RED SONJA was cancelled largely if not necessarily solely on the basis of issues HE drew.

This is not to say that Frank was totally to blame, by any means, for SONJA's demise in four-color form.

Yes, I think his stubborn attitude (refusal to change her baby-doll face despite repeated requests from me, etc.) hurt the book immensely, so that -- even though he left the book an issue or two before I'd have wanted him to, for continuity's sake -- I breathed a sigh of relief when he went.

But no, I don't think he alone was at fault. So was I, both by sticking with him as artist when the mounting evidence was showing his unpopularity on SONJA was growing AND by failing to script Sonja's stories totally myself, which would have allowed me to keep a closer eye and control on an artist who needed controlling badly, in order to sell a mass-market comic book.

Then, of course, there were other factors: the difficulty of selling ANY heroine right now, general slumps, etc.

It's just that it is unfair of Frank to attempt to extricate himself from any responsibility for the ultimate failure in four-color form of the character which brought him to some degree of fan-prominence after decades of work in the field. Unfair... and disappointing, to me personally.

RED SONJA, of course, is far from dead. I've simply been too busy to get the SUPER SPECIAL featuring her adventures DRAWN yet; likewise, the right artist has not been available, and I don't intend to go with a second choice again.

Ironically, the night before RED SONJA was cancelled (and I was never really told that her mag was in danger -- quite the contrary -- though I knew sales of that mag, as of some others, were low), I was sitting around with several friends and wishing there was a way to publish Sonja only in black and white. Voila! The next day, to my initial shock but later considerable satisfaction (at least in a perverse way), RED SONJA was cancelled. I wasn't happy to learn of the fact from Mike Vosburg, living in the Midwest at the time -- but otherwise, I was halfway relieved.

Especially because Jim Shooter responded with some enthusiasm to my suggestion that SONJA become a black and white quarterly when I got time to handle her adventures myself -- and told me, in fact, that president Jim Galton and publisher Stan Lee had voiced similar views.

So, one of these days, look out for a RED SONJA COLOR SPECIAL, at last, and a b&w RED SONJA AND THE BARBARIANS.

Meanwhile, I wish Frank some degree of luck with his heroine, but I'd have more respect for him if he had made a greater attempt to have her face and hair different from those he gave Sonja. He is a better artist, with more integrity than he's shown in released drawings so far.

And it will be really nice when it's no longer the case that every egocentric artist and/or writer who rides to fame on the back of someone else's character or at least in an established comics company's books feels he has to disavow (be it ever so sweetly and offhandedly, as in Frank's case) the property which propelled him to fame. If ever I quit Conan, you won't hear me running the property down, even though I am not essentially a sword and sorcery fan.

Nor has Kirk Alyn, the first Superman, ever uttered unkind words for the Man of Steel who typecast him... and Johnny Weismuller, when I met him, had nothing but fond remembrances for Tarzan.

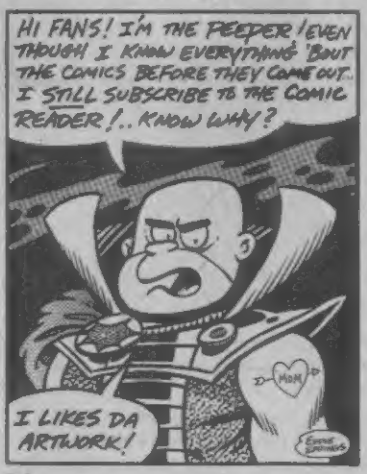
Can't comic book people show the same grace under pressure? And must fandom constantly fall for every exaggerated horror-tale told by someone with an axe to grind against Marvel, DC, Warren or whoever?

If pros often look bad to fans, you should try looking at it from the other side sometime. The view from here isn't what a lot of fans think it is, more's the pity.

P.S. Engel and Fiala are funny as hell and I grit my teeth against the day they bite down on MY sometimes too-thin skin. But I'll defend to the death (well, at least until tortured) their right to do so... or mine to satirize THEM if and when they do. That's really my only point for the last year or so: Pros have a right to talk back and say that fans, too, are sometimes no damn good.

[If ever I heard a challenge to be the butt of someone's satire, that was it. Look out Roy!

My admiration for Frank Thorne's work began long ago, reading Otto Binder's MIGHTY SAMSON, another book for which perhaps he was not ideally suited. It's my own idea that Frank has not yet hit upon the most complementary genre for his style -- although I must admit, from what I've seen of GHITA OF ALIZARR, it's awfully pretty work. Whether Frank's casual remark was simply a statement of fact or an implication that his departure was behind SONJA's demise is a question only he can answer, but you hear so many conflicting stories these days about the cancellation of titles that it's nice to know your version of this particular instance. Thanks for writing. MT]


HI FANS! I'M THE PEEPER! EVEN THOUGH I KNOW EVERYTHING 'BOUT THE COMICS BEFORE THEY COME OUT. I STILL SUBSCRIBE TO THE COMIC READER!.. KNOW WHY?
I LIKES DA ARTWORK!
MOM

MURRAY BISHOFF, 3621 8th Court, East Moline, Illinois 61244: I would like to complain about some deceptive advertising that appeared in TCR #165.

THE COMICS JOURNAL, along with "claims" to circulation, makes a very questionable statement when it says "we were able to be the FIRST to give our readers the most comprehensive coverage of the DC implosion anywhere." This claim is an insult to both THE COMIC READER and THE BUYER'S GUIDE. The prime credit here is speed. Now, the story of the DC Implosion broke to the general public at the DC panel during Phil Seuling's July 4th Convention, a panel held on July 1st. I returned home from the convention, wrote the story on July 7th, it went to press the next day, and by some quirk of speed by the Post

Office, that issue of THE BUYER'S GUIDE was being read by the general public in Chicago the following Tuesday, July 11th. That Friday, July 14th, Mike and Jerry were at the Chicago Comicon selling copies of TCR #159 which carried the story. THE COMICS JOURNAL could not top that speed.

I don't care how Mr. Groth cares to define "most comprehensive coverage" to justify his claims against the contents of our articles. This ad is still worded to deliberately give the impression that THE COMICS JOURNAL is much faster than it really is, and thus deceiving fans who are not fully informed or whose memories do not readily recall events of ten months ago. Such an approach is not fair competition, but an insult to the hardworking people at TCR, and THE BUYER'S GUIDE. I don't like it, and fandom shouldn't stand for it.

[Which is why we've never claimed to have beaten or scooped anyone on a story; with the post office's penchant for delaying mail that isn't letter size, any of us could be the "first" at any given time. I would hope that that specific claim isn't the only reason anyone would subscribe to either TCR or TBG -- dependability and accuracy are important as well. MT]

Fanzine Checklist

ELFQUEST No. 1 (reprint) and 4, $1.25 each from WaRP Graphics, P.O. Box 33, Taunton, MA 02780. Consider this an unequivocal plug for these two issues. Richard and Wendy Pini revise (#1) and continue (#4) their saga of Cutter and the rest of the elves in style, wit and polish. Get them. (We assume #3 also came out since we last reviewed the series.)

FANDOMONIUM! No. 1, $1.35 postpaid from Russell Allen Stamets, 16430 Kimbark, South Holland, Illinois 60473. An amateur comic strip by Stamets, a science fiction story by Alan Dale Tromp, a sketchbook by Darwin Howe, and an amateur strip by Steve Bullock as well as art by Reuben Pharms, Willie Blyberg, Earl Guier and Alan Jim Hanley make up the issue.

FANTORAMA No. 9, $1.00 postpaid from Pubbug Press Publications, 11220 Bird Road, Richmond, BC Canada V6X 1N8. This issue features an interview with Jim McPherson (publisher of PHANTACEA) which may or may not help you to understand what PHANTACEA is all about; an article-interview with Doc Savage; articles about radio and science fiction; a portfolio of drawings by Ron Kasman; and reviews of books, movies and (LULU'S REVIEW of) fanzines. Also, NEIL THE HORSE by Arn Saba (formerly featured in The Menomonee Falls GUARDIAN) appears in two daily-size strips.

PHANTACEA No. 3, $1.60 postpaid from Jim McPherson, 1749 Collingwood Street, Vancouver, Canada V6R 3K2. Another issue featuring Jim McPherson's extremely complicated tale of about thirty inter-related characters with bizarre names, powers and appearances, shows signs of improvement over previous issues which were complicated by too much text and confusing illustration. This issue's artists include P. Lynde, Richard Sandoval, Verne Andrusiek, Ian Bateson and Hammell. An interesting excursion into experimental storytelling beyond aboveground comics, but be forewarned: you're expected to remember a lot.

VISIONS No. 1, $4.50 from Gary Cook and Lamar Waldron, 784 Ponce de Leon Terrace, Atlanta, Georgia 30306. An interview with Jim Steranko, a two page strip by Kenneth Smith, a cover (reprinted as a centerspread) by Neal Adams and amateur strips by Gary Cook, Lamar Waldron, Bob Burden and Rod Whigham, and a back cover by Rudy Nebres makeup this issue printed on heavyweight stock.

WOWEEKAZOWIE! No. 4, $1.50 postpaid from Peter Iro, 455 Potomac Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14213. This late 1978 issue features columns by Mark Gruenwald, Marilyn Bethke, Kim Thompson, Frank Lovece, Gene Phillips, Bill Wu and Iro (some of which seem older than last year) and professional calibre strips by Lovece, Robb Phipps, Sam de la Rosa, Willie Blyberg, Larry Houston, Gar Haywood, Mark Gruenwald (art and story) and Dennis Jensen, in a comic-size package.

Below is the first page of the Neal Adams four-pager in the 32 page, full color ROCK COMICS, which also features art by Dave Simons, Alfredo Alcala, Ken Landgraf and Armando Gil. $1.75 postpaid from Landgraphics Publications, 315 East 21st St., Apt. 7-H, New York, NY 10010.

IF THERE WAS EVER A ROCK AND ROLLER WHO COULD DEFEAT AN ARMY OF INTERGALATIC TITANS WITH HIS BARE HANDS, IT'S...
THOR
THOR CAN WITHSTAND THE BLOWS OF A SLEDGEHAMMER BREAKING CONCRETE SLABS ON HIS BARE CHEST
HE CAN BEND STEEL BARS BETWEEN HIS BARE TEETH.

Harvey Coming Co

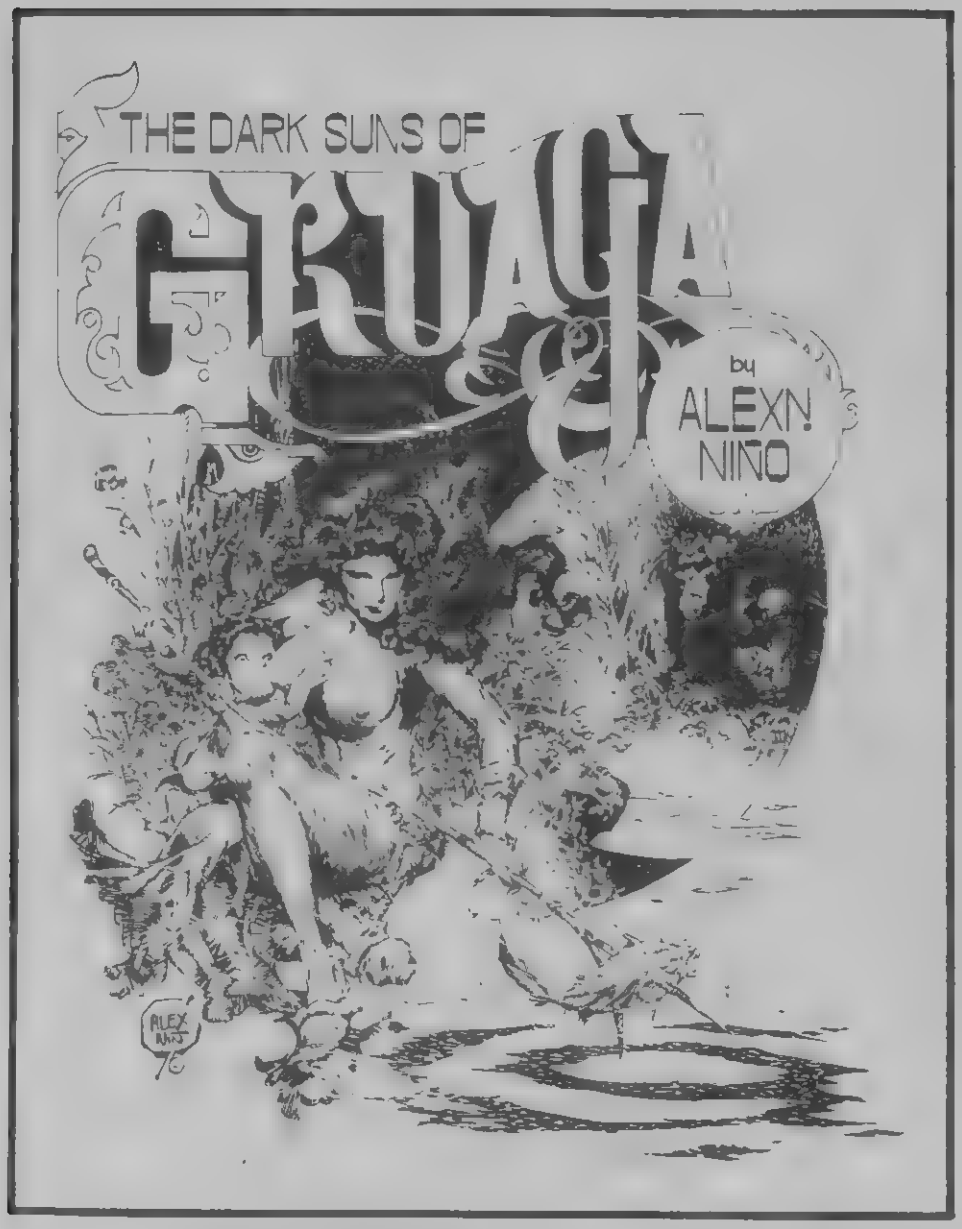
DEVIL KIDS No. 95, September. [6/7]

RICHIE RICH BANK BOOKS No. 42, September. [6/7]

RICHIE RICH VAULT$ OF MYSTERY No. 30, September. [6/7]

SAD SACK No. 270, September. [6/7]

ALEX NINO Portfolio



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A fantastic voyage by Alex Nino. Ten black and white plates plus an illustrated folder. Limited to 1000 signed and numbered copies. Now available $15.00 plus $1.50 postage and handling. Distributed by Pacific Comics, P.O. Box 99217, San Diego, CA 92109. 400 copies advanced sales, 600 copies left. Order now while they're still available!!!

Schanes & Schanes

ALFREDO ALCALA
Portfolio

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BERNI WRIGHTSON
Portfolio

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FRANKENSTEIN
A Portfolio By
BERNI WRIGHTSON

Frankenstein

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Enclosed find $..... Send check or money order only

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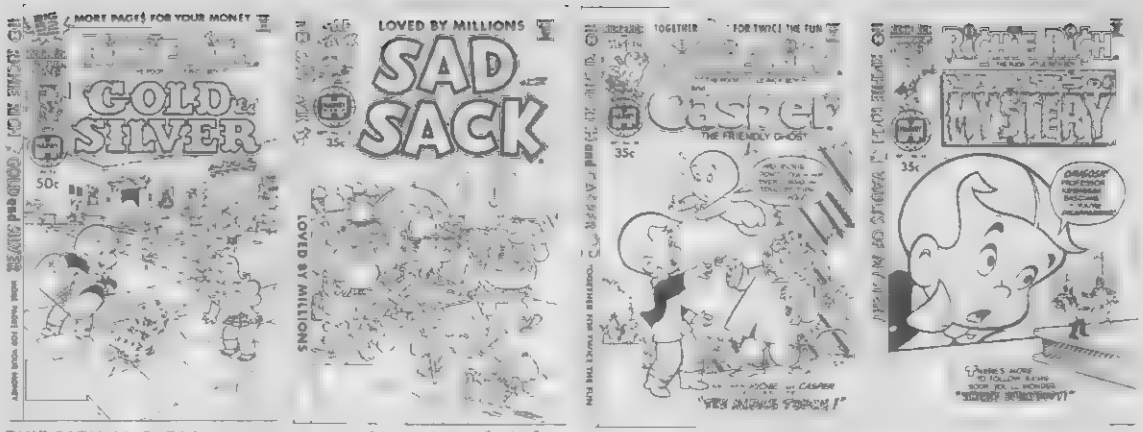
City . . . . . State . . . . . Zip . . . .



RICHIE RICH AND CADBURY, THE PERFECT BUTLER No. 9, September. 50¢. [6/14]

RICHIE RICH AND GLORIA No. 10, September. 50¢. [6/14]

RICHIE RICH DIAMONDS No. 44, September. 50¢. [6/14]

RICHIE RICH SUCCESS STORIES No. 89, September. 50¢. [6/14]

RICHIE RICH AND CASPER No. 30, September. [6/21]

RICHIE RICH CASH No. 31, September. [6/21]

RICHIE RICH DOLLARS AND CENTS No. 93, September. 50¢. [6/21]

RICHIE RICH INVENTIONS No. 10, September. 50¢. [6/21]

RICHIE RICH VACATION DIGEST No. 3, September. [6/21]

RICHIE RICH No. 182, September. [6/28]

RICHIE RICH [HARVEY] COLLECTORS' COMICS No. 16, September. 50¢. [6/28]

RICHIE RICH GEMS No. 27, September. [6/28]

RICHIE RICH GOLD AND SILVER No. 26, September. 50¢. [6/28]

© 1979, TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX FILM CORP

Courtesy of the 20th Century-Fox promotion department come these stills from the forthcoming science fiction film ALIEN, directed by Ridley (THE DUELLISTS) Scott and co-written by Dan O'Bannon, who did the cult hit DARK STAR. Shown are: Yaphet Kotto (Parker) and John Hurt (Kane) awakening from hypersleep; Harry Dean Staton (Brett), Ian Holm (Ash), Hurt, Veronica Cartwright (Lambert), Tom Skerritt (Dallas), **Sigourney Weaver (Ripley) and Kotto,** the crew of the space-tug "Nostromo"; Weaver, Kotto and Stanton searching for the alien; and crew members discovering the remains of a non-human "space jockey." The film will appear this summer.

DICK DUCK, DUCK DICK

by Jim Engel

DICK RECOUPERATES FROM PAVLOV'S FIRST LESSON IN PRIVATE DETECTION...
PLEEEZ, MR. DUCK?
I DUNNO, SHORT STUFF, I DON'T FEEL SO HOT...
BUT I'VE BEEN PRACTICING SO HARD!
:SIGH: THE KID MEANS WELL...
AWRIGHT PAV, I'LL WALK AROUND THE OFFICE, + YOU CAN TRY "TAILING" ME...
THE LITTLE GUY PROB'LY DOESN'T EVEN KNOW WHAT "TAILING" MEANS!
HOLY SHI-
©1979 JIMENGEL
WHAM!
HOW'D I DO, MR. DUCK?
THIS JOB WAS A HECK OF A LOT EASIER BEFORE I HAD AN ASSISTANT!!
END
pals no.4
looks good at any angle!
THE END

BULLET CROW

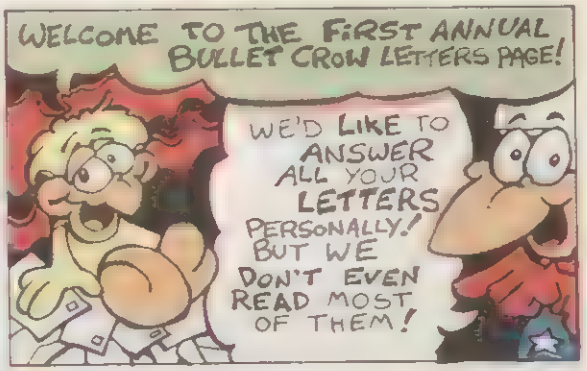
★ ★ ★

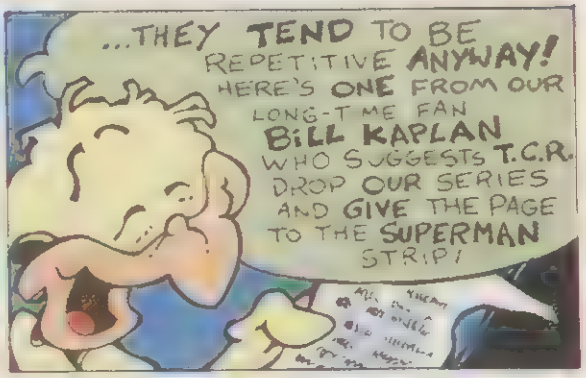
FOWL OF FORTUNE

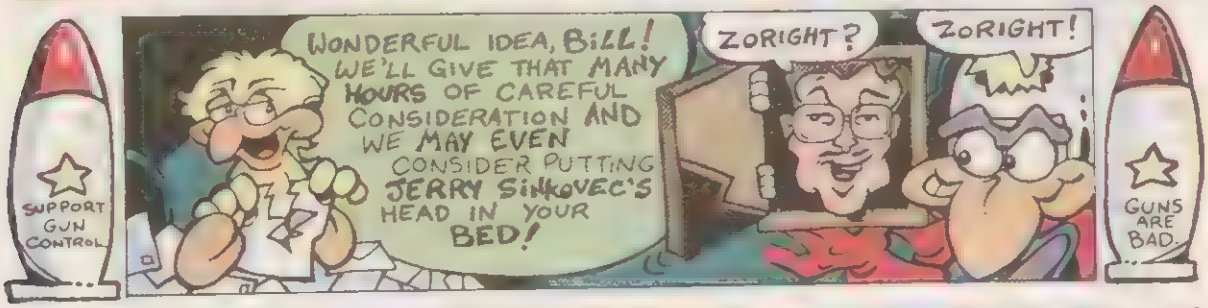
by CHUCK FIALA

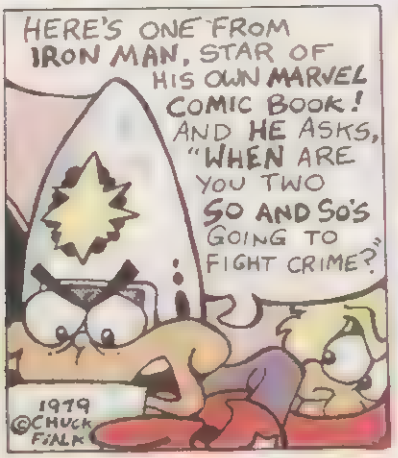
004

SORRY, CORONARY CANARY! NOT MUCH MAIL TODAY! NOPE! NOBODY THOUGHT YOUR LAST STRIP WAS FUNNY AT ALL! OVER 10-4
Jet.
F.I.L.
THEY'RE SO FICKLE!
ROAR.


WELCOME TO THE FIRST ANNUAL BULLET CROW LETTERS PAGE!
WE'D LIKE TO ANSWER ALL YOUR LETTERS PERSONALLY! BUT WE DON'T EVEN READ MOST OF THEM!


...THEY TEND TO BE REPETITIVE ANYWAY! HERE'S ONE FROM OUR LONG-TIME FAN BILL KAPLAN WHO SUGGESTS T.C.R. DROP OUR SERIES AND GIVE THE PAGE TO THE SUPERMAN STRIP!


SUPPORT GUN CONTROL
WONDERFUL IDEA, BILL! WE'LL GIVE THAT MANY HOURS OF CAREFUL CONSIDERATION AND WE MAY EVEN CONSIDER PUTTING JERRY SINKOVEC'S HEAD IN YOUR BED!
ZORIGHT?
ZORIGHT!
GUNS ARE BAD.


HERE'S ONE FROM IRON MAN, STAR OF HIS OWN MARVEL COMIC BOOK! AND HE ASKS, "WHEN ARE YOU TWO SO AND SO'S GOING TO FIGHT CRIME?"
1979 ©CHUCK FIALA

"STARK INTERNATIONAL HAS BEEN DISHING OUT THE BUCKS WITH NO RESULTS, MISTER! WE MAY BE FORCED TO CUT YOU OFF COLD, TURKEY! NO GUNS, NO L.M.D.'S, NO SECRET DECODER RINGS!"
OH

FANDOM CONFIDENTIAL

with Jim Engel & Chuck Fiala

this month: SUPERMAN INTERVIEW

SUPERMAN, WELCOME!
IT'S REALLY A THRILL TO HAVE YOU HERE!
WELL, THANK YOU, JIM AND CHUCK.
WE BOTH LOVED THE MOVIE-- EXCEPT FOR ONE THING...
YEAH! THAT TURNING BACK TIME STUFF!
I MEAN, SURE--YOU'RE SUPER AND EVERYTHING, BUT...
REALLY! DON'T YOU HAVE TO ADMIT IT WAS A LITTLE FAR-FETCHED?
EXCUSE ME A MOMENT, BOYS...
HEY-- WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?
HE UP AND WALKS OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF AN INTERVIEW!
SUPERMAN, WELCOME!
IT'S REALLY A THRILL TO HAVE YOU HERE!
WELL, THANK YOU, JIM AND CHUCK.
WE BOTH LOVED THE MOVIE-- EXCEPT FOR ONE THING...
YEAH! THAT TURNING BACK TIME STUFF!

SPEEDBALL: RICKER

The Menomonee Falls Gazette

BATMAN
by Bob Kane

PLAN CLOTHESMEN WILL SWITCH PLACES WITH YOUR CLUB MEMBERS SO THERE'LL BE NO DANGER!
BUT WILL THE PROFESSOR FALL FOR YOUR TRAP AND COME HERE?
AN INSANE MAN DOESN'T REASON RATIONALLY! THE PROFESSOR'S FANATICISM WILL BRING HIM HERE!
LATER...BATMAN VISITS THE CITY'S NEWSPAPER OFFICES...
THEN YOU'LL COOPERATE?
WE'LL SPREAD THE UNHAPPY MEN'S CLUB ACROSS THE FRONT PAGES!
UNHAPPY MEN'S CLUB CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY!
UNIQUE CLUB OF UNHAPPY MEN ONE YEAR OLD!
UNHAPPY MEN NUMBER 100 MEMBERS
ANNIVERSARY TO BE CELEBRATED BY THE UNHAPPY MEN'S CLUB
YOU THINK PROFESSOR RADIUM WILL WALK INTO YOUR TRAP?
I HOPE SO. KEEP YOUR FINGERS CROSSED!
SOMEBODY COMING UP THE WALK. IT'S NOT A CLUB MEMBER. THINK IT'S HIM?
THERE'S ONE SURE WAY OF FINDING OUT IF IT'S THE PROFESSOR!
AS THE MAN ENTERS SHADES ARE DRAWN SUDDENLY, CUTTING OFF DAYLIGHT AND THERE GLOWING IN THE DARKNESS!...

As you may notice, this daily strip is missing. That's the reason BATMAN missed last issue; we thought we may be able to get the strip in time for this one. Unfortunately, we haven't, which means a gap. If anyone has the daily for October 28, 1946 (a Monday) we'd like to borrow it so we can print it in these pages for the completists out there. In the meantime, this is also the final week of the strip as far as we've been able to determine, so that's it for the Caped Crusader in these pages.

NO USE HUNTING FOR HIM! PROFESSOR RADIUM GOT AWAY!
THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN!
I PREPARED A LITTLE SURPRISE FOR THE PROFESSOR EARLIER TODAY. I SPRINKLED THE WALLS WITH A SPECIAL POWDER! TURN OFF THE CORRIDOR LIGHTS, ROBIN!
NOW, UNDER BLACK LIGHT THE POWDER GLOWS! AH!... THE PROFESSOR'S FOOTPRINTS

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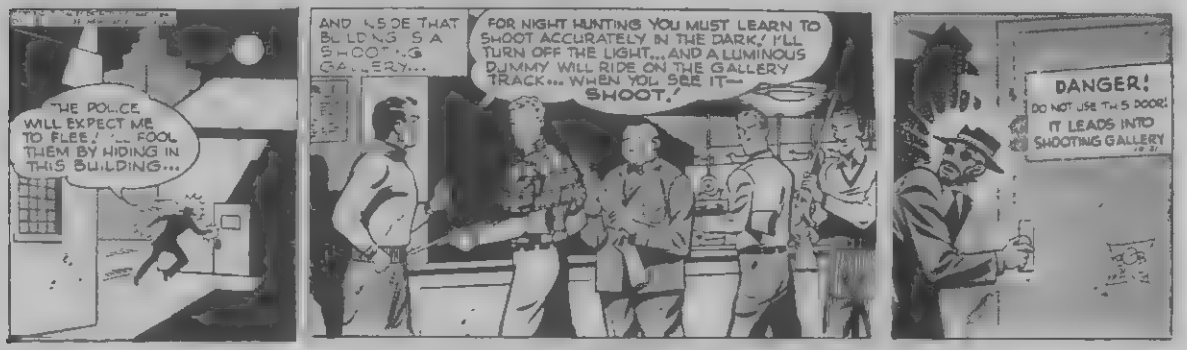
The Menomonee Falls Gazette

NOW, BATMAN... PREPARE TO DIE! I BRING YOU THE TOUCH OF DEATH!
YOU'RE FORGETTING, PROFESSOR... YOU'VE GOT TO TOUCH EXPOSED SKIN BEFORE YOUR DEATH-TOUCH TAKES EFFECT. I CAN KEEP DODGING.
CAN YOU DODGE THIS?
THE NOISE CAME FROM UP THIS WAY!
SOUNDS AS IF BATMAN CAUGHT UP WITH THE PROFESSOR!
POLICE. I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!


THE POLICE WILL EXPECT ME TO FLEE! I'LL FOOL THEM BY HIDING IN THIS BUILDING...
AND INSIDE THAT BUILDING IS A SHOOTING GALLERY...
FOR NIGHT HUNTING YOU MUST LEARN TO SHOOT ACCURATELY IN THE DARK! I'LL TURN OFF THE LIGHT... AND A LUMINOUS DUMMY WILL RIDE ON THE GALLERY TRACK... WHEN YOU SEE IT— SHOOT!
DANGER!
DO NOT USE THIS DOOR!
IT LEADS INTO SHOOTING GALLERY

HA, I FOOLED THE POLICE COMPLETELY! I'LL HIDE HERE UNTIL...
CRACK!
CRACK!
CRACK!
AGGH
THE DUMMY-FIGURE SCREAMED!
NO! IT WASN'T THE DUMMY! THERE IT COMES NOW!
GOOD GREF! THEN WHAT DID WE SHOOT?

I HEARD SHOTS AND A SCREAM! OHHH...
IT WAS AN ACCIDENT WE THOUGHT HE WAS OUR LUMINOUS DUMMY TARGET!
YOU SAVED THE STATE THE TROUBLE! STRANGE, PROFESSOR RADIUM WANTED TO BRING MERCIFUL DEATH TO UNHAPPY PEOPLE... IRONICALLY, HE BROUGHT ON HIS OWN DEATH!
IT'S JUST AS WELL! HE WAS AN OUTCAST... THE ONLY ONE OF HIS KIND ALIVE! HE, HIMSELF, WAS THE LONELIEST OF MEN... AND THE UNHAPPIEST!

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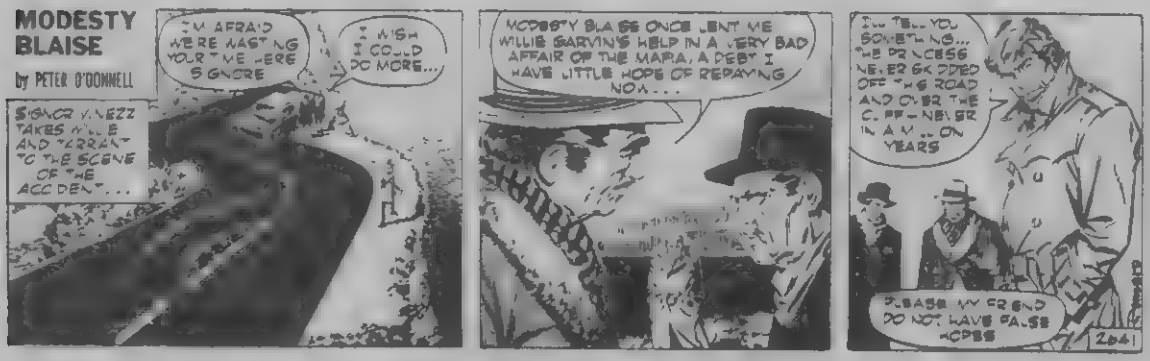
MODESTY BLAISE
by Peter O'Donnell & Enrique Romero

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
NOT ME MATE TOO RISKY- TARRANT'S SHORT OF INSTRUCTORS SO I'M HELPING OUT
IN A SPECIAL TRAINING ESTABLISHMENT FOR TARRANT'S AGENTS . .
IF IT ISN'T WILLIE GARVIN! DON'T SAY YOU'VE JOINED US?
IT'S NO USE JUST HANGING ON TO MY NECK MAUDE – EITHER SQUASH IT BREAK IT OR TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT
HE'S A GREAT INSTRUCTOR, DUCKY – BUT WATCH HIM IN THE CLINCHES
2637
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
ALL RIGHT... BUT I DON'T SEEM TO HAVE IMPROVED MUCH IN TWO WEEKS
LET'S TRY THE COUNTER TO A GUN IN YOUR BACK
YOU'D NEED TWO YEARS BEFORE YOU COULD BEGIN TO KNOW WHAT CON BATS ALL ABOUT MAUDE – BUT DON'T WORRY A GOOD AGENT NEVER GETS INTO A FIGHT
ALL THIS NONSENSE IS JUST TO GIVE YOU A BIT OF CONFIDENCE
READY NOW?
2638
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
RIGHT...
NICE MAUDE VERY NICE! YOU GOT TO BE READY FOR A FOLLOW-UP WITH THE KNEE THOUGH
WILLIE I'VE BAD NEWS.. I'M SORRY
2639
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
VINEZZI OF ITALIAN INTERPOL CALLED ME... THEY'VE JUST IDENTIFIED MODESTY'S CAR... IT SKIDDED AND WENT OVER THE CLIFFS NEAR POSITANO...
... FELL ON TO SUBMERGED ROCKS AND BROKE UP... HER BODY MUST HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT TO SEA... THEY HAVEN'T RECOVERED IT
OH WILLIE!
THANKS... EXCUSE ME. I'VE GOT TO MAKE A PHONE-CALL
I'VE ALREADY BOOKED FLIGHTS FOR US BOTH
2640

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL


I'M AFRAID WE'RE WASTING YOUR TIME HERE SIGNORE
I WISH I COULD DO MORE...
SIGNOR VINEZZI TAKES WILLIE AND TARRANT TO THE SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT...
MODESTY BLAISE ONCE LENT ME WILLIE GARVIN'S HELP IN A VERY BAD AFFAIR OF THE MAFIA. A DEBT I HAVE LITTLE HOPE OF REPAYING NOW...
I'LL TELL YOU SOMETHING... THE PRINCESS NEVER STRAYED OFF THE ROAD AND OVER THE CLIFF — NEVER IN AVIGNON YEARS
PLEASE MY FRIEND DO NOT HAVE FALSE HOPES
2641

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL

WILLIE... IT'S FOOLISH TO KID YOURSELF THAT MODESTY'S ALIVE
LOOK SIR — IT'S ALWAYS BEEN ON THE CARDS FOR HER OR ME TO DIE A BIT BLOODY SO I'M NOT LIKELY TO KID MESELF.
SHE COULD BE DEAD... BUT IF SHE IS, THEN IT WASN'T THROUGH ACTING BLOODY STUPID WITH A CAR...
I... TELL YOU SOMETHING YOU CAN CARVE IN STONE ... WHEN SHE GOES IT WON'T BE THAT WAY!
2642

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL

TARRANT RETURNS TO ENGLAND AND SENDS FOR WALDO TUBBS
MR. GARVIN HAS CONVINCED ME SHE MODESTY WASN'T KILLED IN THAT CAR ACCIDENT BUT WAS SNATCHED — SO NOW HE'S MORE LOOKING FOR A LEAD
I'M TAKING YOU OFF TRAINING TO GO OUT THERE AND ATTACH YOURSELF TO HIM ... IT MAY NOT BE EASY
I... I'LL TRY, SIR — BUT WHAT EXACTLY IS MY MISSION?
TO GIVE MY COMFORT AND SUPPORT WALDO... ESPECIALLY COMFORT DO YOU UNDERSTAND? HE NEEDS TAKING RIGHT OUT OF HIMSELF
2643

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL

YES SIR... SHOULD I TRY TO GET WILLIE GARVIN TO ACCEPT THE FACT THAT MODESTY BLAISE IS DEAD?
YOU'LL LEAVE FOR ROME WITHOUT DELAY
NO WALDO... LET THAT COME IN ITS OWN TIME
YOU SEE HE... GO HUNTING THROUGH ALL THE UNDERWORLDS OF EUROPE FOR HER...
AND IF YOURS WITH HIM, YOU'LL LEARN MORE IN A MONTH THAN WE COULD TEACH YOU IN FIVE YEARS OF TRAINING
WHAT A WAY YOU HAVE OF TAKING THE BEST OF A SITUATION SIR
2644

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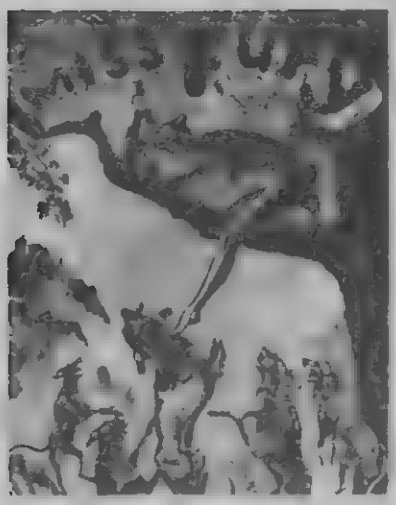

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The Guardian

The MENOMONEE FALLS GUARDIAN was published weekly from issue #1 (6/28/73) through issue #141 (3/1/76) and roughly monthly from issue #142 (April 1976) to #146 (November 1976), the final issue. Issues 1 through 144 were sixteen pages each, issues 145 and 146 were twelve pages each.

The following list is a guide to the old and new strips that have appeared in The GUARDIAN. The list does not contain a handful of strips that were only briefly reprinted.

CURRENT STRIPS:
ALLEY OOP (d, Dave Graue) #60-146
BC (d, Johnny Hart) #1 - 144
BEETLE BAILEY (d, Mort Walker) #1 - 144
BOON DOCK (d, Geo. Breisacher) #65 - 146
THE BORN LOSER (d, Art Sansom) #16-146
BROOM-HILDA (d&S, Russell Myers) #1 - 146
EEK AND MEEK (d, Howie Schneider) #17-146
FEIFFER (w, Feiffer) #8-68 (even no. only), 69-77
FRANK AND ERNEST (d, Bob Thaves) #19,61-146
FUNNY BUSINESS (d, Rog Bollen) #16-146
GASOLINE ALLEY (d, Dick Moores) #37-115
GASOLINE ALLEY (d&S, Moores) #116-146
GAHAN WILSON'S SUNDAY COMICS (S, Gahan Wilson) #112-129
GORDO (d, Gus Arriola) #39-144
JOE PALOOKA (d, Tony Dipreta) #1-112
MICKEY FINN (d, Morris Weiss) #1-112
NEIL THE HORSE (w, Am Saba) #118-140 (even no. only), 142-146

POGO (d, Walt Kelly, Henry Shikuma) #1-111
POGO (S, Walt Kelly, Henry Shikuma) #1-64,78-111
RICK O'SHAY (S, Stan Lynde) #116-129
SALLY BANANAS (d, Charles Barsotti) #1-36
WINTHROP (d, Dick Cavalli) #16-146

REPRINT STRIPS
ALLEY OOP (d, 1949-50 V.T. Hamlin) #2-59
CAPTAIN EASY (d, 1951-52 Leslie Turner) #6-72
KRAZY KAT (d, 1927,33-35 Herriman) #1-60,116-143
MICKEY MOUSE (d, 1931-32 Disney) #117-125, 128-146
ROMEO BROWN (d, English strip by O'Donnell & Holdaway) #1-38
SAM'S STRIP (d, 1961-62 Dumas & Walker) #134-146
THIMBLE THEATRE STARRING POPEYE (d, 1930-31, 1933-35 E.C. Segar) #1-131, 133-146

BACK ISSUE PRICES:
Issue #1 is $1, and issues #3-146 are 50 cents each. Issue #2 is completely sold out. Back issue sets:
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SUPERMAN by Siegel & Shuster

OUTSIDE LOIS' APARTMENT, SUPERMAN AGAIN DONS HIS CIVILIAN GARMENTS...
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY THOSE TWO SHOULD WANT TO STEAL LOIS' LETTER- BUT PERHAPS I'LL KNOW WHEN SHE OPENS IT!
CLARK! DID YOU CATCH THE THIEF?
NO. BUT I HAVE THE LETTER. IN HIS HURRY TO GET AWAY, HE MUST HAVE- ER- LOST IT!
BUT WHY SHOULD ANYONE WANT TO STEAL THIS?
THE ONLY WAY TO FIND OUT IS TO OPEN IT!
!

I- I MUST BE SEEING THINGS! YOU READ IT!
YOU FEMALES MYSTIFY ME! THE SLIGHTEST THING EXCITES YOU!
IT'S SIMPLY A LETTER FROM AN ATTORNEY NAMED HOMER G. CLUTCH. HE'S WRITING TO INFORM YOU THAT YOUR GREAT GRANDUNCLE HAS DIED-
-LEAVING YOU THREE MILLION DOLLARS...
BUT, CLARK- DON'T YOU REALIZE-?!
WELL, I- THREE MILLION DOLLARS!!! G-GULP! LOIS, W-WOULD YOU MIND GETTING ME A DRINK OF WATER???

Y-YOU- NHERIT NG THREE MILLION DOLLARS! IT- IT TAKES MY BREATH AWAY!
THEN YOU CAN IMAG NE HOW IT AFFECTS ME!
EXCUSE ME, CLARK- THE PHONE, AND I'VE A HUNCH IT'LL BE OUR FR END AND EMPLOYER EDITOR PERRY WH TE OF THE DAILY PLANET-
-AND IF YOU DON'T GET DOWN TO THE OFFICE PRONTO YOU'RE FIRED! M SICK AND RED OF YOUR TARD NESS,
FIRED? DO YOU MEAN DISCHARGED? WHAT POSSIBLE DIFFERENCE COULD THAT MAKE TO A MILLIONAIRESS? -THANK YOU FOR CALL NG MY GOOD MAN, BUT I'M REALLY TOO BUSY THIS MORN NG TO BANDY WORDS WITH YOU. GOOD DAY!

LET'S GET DOWN TO THAT LAWYER'S OFFICE AND COLLECT MY INHERITED THREE MILLION DOLLARS!
THREE MILLION DOLLARS! WHAT ON EARTH WILL YOU DO WITH ALL THAT MONEY, LOIS?
I'LL PUT IT INTO WAR BONDS, OF COURSE.
SWELL IDEA!
-AND THEN LATER ON I'LL BE ABLE TO BUY A MANSION, A YACHT, DOZENS OF DRESSES, HUNDREDS OF SHOES -AND MILLIONS OF HANDBAGS TO KEEP ALL MY MONEY IN!
HURRY, CLARK! DON'T BE SO SLOW!
HOW CAN I KEEP UP WITH YOU WHEN YOUR THOUGHTS ARE SOARING HUNDREDS OF MILES UP IN THE CLOUDS??

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The Menomonee Falls Gazette

Y-YOU OPEN THE DOOR CLARK! NOW THAT I'M HERE, I'M AFRAID TO GO IN!
WHY? AFTER ALL, YOU'RE JUST HERE TO COLLECT THE THREE MILLION DOLLARS YOU'VE INHERITED!
HOMER G. CLUTCH Attorney-at-Law
"-THAT'S THE SNEAK-THIEF WHO TRIED TO STEAL LOIS' LETTER!"
I-I'M SORRY, BUT MR. CLUTCH LEFT WORD THAT HE WOULD SEE NOBODY TODAY.
HE'LL SEE ME. I'M LOIS LANE
LOIS LANE?!?
"-NO WONDER HE LOOKS STARTLED! HE NEVER EXPECTED HER TO SHOW UP!-"
DID I HEAR THE NAME "LOIS LANE" MENTIONED?
Y-YESSIR, MR. CLUTCH-SHE'S HERE.
"-AND CLUTCH IS THE FELLOW WHO HIRED THE SNEAK-THIEF! THIS GETS MORE INTERESTING EVERY MINUTE!"

YOU MAY RETURN TO YOUR DESK, MORTIMER. I SHALL HAVE WORDS WITH YOU LATER.
Y-YESSIR.
"-OBVIOUSLY MORTIMER IS SCARED STIFF OF HIS EMPLOYER!"
AH... MISS LANE! SO YOU DID RECEIVE MY LETTER!
"-THE OLD HYPOCRITE TRIED HARD ENOUGH TO STEAL IT BEFORE LOIS COULD READ IT!-"
YES, I RECEIVED YOUR LETTER.
AND NOW, ABOUT MY $3,000,000 INHERITANCE. SHALL I TAKE IT WITH ME, OR WILL YOU SEND IT BY MESSENGER?
PATIENCE, MISS LANE! FIRST THERE ARE A FEW DETAILS TO BE CLARIFIED!
"-DETAILS, EH? HERE COMES THE CATCH!-"

YOUR LATE GRAND-UNCLE, MISS LANE, LEFT YOU THREE MILLION DOLLARS IN CURRENCY WHICH IS IN THIS SEALED IRON BOX.
THREE MILLION IN CASH! WHEW!
IF YOU'LL HAND IT OVER I'LL BE GLAD TO SIGN A RECEIPT.
ONE MOMENT, PLEASE! ARE YOU ENGAGED? DO YOU HAVE A STEADY BOY FRIEND?
WELL... I SORT OF FANCY I--
AS A MATTER OF FACT-I'M NOT ENGAGED AND I HAVE NO STEADY BOY FRIEND. BUT WHAT RIGHT HAVE YOU TO--
A LAWYER'S RIGHT MY DEAR! YOU SEE, THE WILL SPECIFICALLY SPECIFIES...
"...THAT UNLESS YOU ARE MARRIED WITHIN TEN DAYS OF LEGAL NOTIFICATION, YOU INHERIT... NOTHING!!"

SO, MISS LANE, IN ORDER TO INHERIT YOUR UNCLE PHINEAS $3,000,000-YOU MUST BE MARRIED WITHIN TEN DAYS!
BUT THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS!
THAT'S EXACTLY THE REACTION I EXPECTED! NATURALLY A FINE, CLEAN-CUT, INDEPENDENT, SELF RESPECTING GIRL LIKE YOURSELF DEFINITELY WOULDN'T BE INTERESTED IN MARRYING FOR MONEY!
INCIDENTALLY MR. CLUTCH, WHAT HAPPENS TO THE THREE MILLION DOLLARS IF LOIS DOESN'T FULFILL THAT PROVISION?
IN THAT CASE I AM HAPPY TO INFORM YOU, THE MONEY WOULD GO TO A CLOSE ACQUAINTANCE OF THE LATE PHINEAS LANE-A MAN OF HIGHEST INTEGRITY OF SUPERB CHARACTER OF UNBREACHABLE HONESTY
... NAMELY-- MYSELF!

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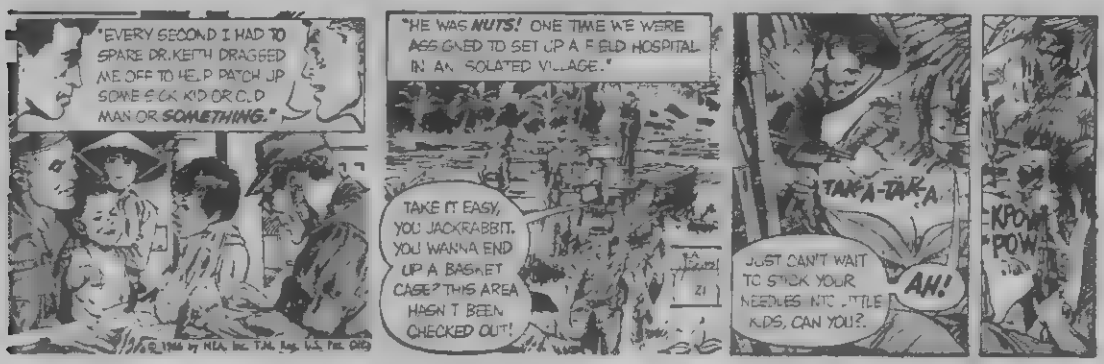
BEN CASEY
by Neal Adams

THE OLDER MAN IS ALIVE BUT THE OTHER...
NO!! OH, NO...
LIL
HE SAVED ME...I FELT HIM PRESSING AND PUSHING ...ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION...THEN HE FELL OVER...
END...COME WITH ME...
NO, DADDY. I'... WAIT WITH MY HUSBAND...
END! YOUR FATHER WANTS TO SEE YOU.
STUART TOLD ME EVERYTHING JUST BEFORE- HE ..
THEN YOU KNOW HOW DEEPLY HE LOVED YOU
HE WANTED US TO DESPISE HIM...TO SAVE US FROM PAIN. WHY— WHY MUST WE ALWAYS UNDERSTAND WHEN IT'S TOO LATE?
YOU KNEW DR. CASEY.. COULDN'T YOU HAVE TOLD US?
DADDY'S SETTING UP A STUART GAYNOR MUS CAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND AS SOON AS HE LEAVES THE HOSPITAL... IT'S THE ONLY WAY HE COULD THINK OF TO...TO...
I UNDERSTAND, END. JUST REMEMBER...
18
...THE LEGACY OF GOOD MLS C STUART LEFT TO THE WORLD WILL INSURE HIS MEMORY. GOODBY, ENID.
EXCUSE ME, DR. CASEY.
YES, WHA...?...!!
NILES LEEDS...AND BACK FROM OVERSEAS I JEFF KEITH WROTE ME HE'D MET YOU IN VIET NAM, BUT HE DIDN'T MENTION YOU MIGHT COME HOME.
DR. KEITH WAS SO BUSY I'M SURPRISED HE HAD TIME TO WRITE ANY LETTERS. HE WAS A GOOD MAN.
WAS...?
THAT'S ACTUALLY WHY I'M HERE. I PROMISED HIM I'D STOP IN TO SEE YOU...IF...HE CAUGHT IT ...BEFORE HE GOT BACK
THERE'S A RESTAURANT WITH QUIET WAITRESSES DOWN THE BLOCK... WE CAN TALK ...I'D LIKE TO KNOW...HOW IT HAPPENED.
19

The Menomonee Falls Gazette

JEFF WAS ONE OF THE BEST INTERNISTS I'D EVER MET. THEN THE DRAFT CAUGHT H'M. SNAPPED HIM UP I SHOULD SAY.
DON'T KNOCK IT, BEN. JEFF TOLD ME HE WOULD HAVE JOINED UP ANYWAY ...BUT LISTEN...
"WE MET ON A HELICOPTER HOP TO SAIGON. ONE MINUTE WE WERE TALKING ABOUT MY STAY AT COUNTY GENERAL UNDER HIS AND YOUR CARE AND THE NEXT MINUTE..."
"...HE HAD CONNED ME INTO SPENDING ALL MY SPARE TIME HELPING HIM PATCH UP VIET NAMESE CIVILIANS."


"EVERY SECOND I HAD TO SPARE DR. KEITH DRAGGED ME OFF TO HELP PATCH UP SOME SICK KID OR OLD MAN OR SOMETHING."
"HE WAS NUTS! ONE TIME WE WERE ASSIGNED TO SET UP A FIELD HOSPITAL IN AN ISOLATED VILLAGE."
TAKE IT EASY, YOU JACKRABBIT. YOU WANNA END UP A BASKET CASE? THIS AREA HASN'T BEEN CHECKED OUT!
TAK-A-TAK-A
JUST CAN'T WAIT TO STICK YOUR NEEDLES INTO LITTLE KIDS, CAN YOU?
AH!
KPOW
POW

THE WAY YOU TELL IT, NILES, JEFF WAS READY TO STAY IN VIET NAM INDEFINITELY
NOT INDEFINITELY, MERELY AS LONG AS THE ARMY NEEDED HIM THERE. HE FIGURED IF HE DID HIS BEST, WE'D GET OUT OF THERE THAT MUCH SOONER.
"JUST TWO WEEKS AGO WE WERE ON A HELICOPTER DROP. I WAS FIRST TO JUMP FROM THE HOVERING CRAFT WHEN..."
"THE EXPLOSION KICKED OVER THE CHOPPER WITH THE REST OF THE MEN INSIDE."

"AFTER THE CHIMES STOPPED IN MY EARS, I STARED AT THE SILENT OVERTURNED CHOPPER. THEN A VOICE CAME BELLOWING OUT...
BLAST IT... HELP ME MOVE THIS MAN...
"IT WAS JEFF...HIS HEAD POPPED INTO VIEW."
NILES YOU'RE ALIVE. GET OVER HERE BOY, AND HELP ME GET THESE MEN OUT OF HERE BEFORE THIS TIN CAN BLOWS SKY-HIGH...
"WE GOT ALL THE MEN OUT BEFORE THE CHOPPER BLEW."

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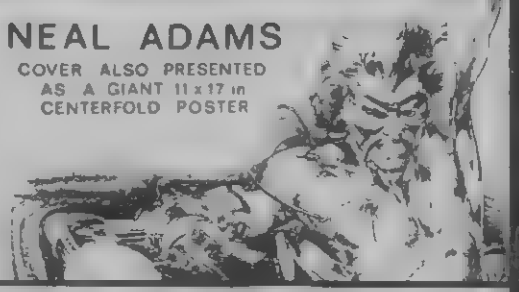

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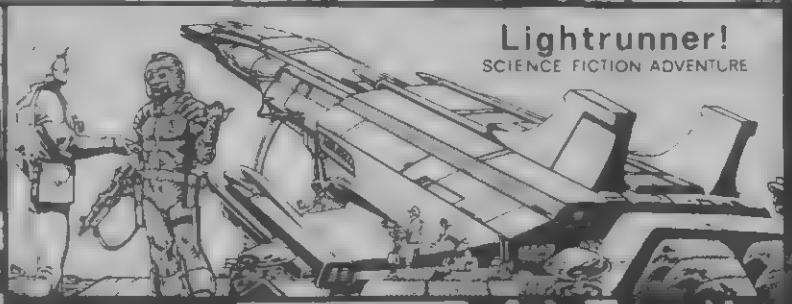

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- ☐ THE INVADERS #41 [last issue]
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- ☐ SHOGUN WARRIORS #8
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- ☐ SPIDER-WOMAN #18
- ☐ SPIDEY SUPER STORIES #42
- ☐ STAR WARS #27
- ☐ TARZAN #28
- ☐ THOR #287
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DC

- ☐ ACTION COMICS #499
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- ☐ DAFFY DUCK #124
- ☐ DAISY AND DONALD #39
- ☐ DONALD DUCK #210
- ☐ HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUIE #58
- ☐ LITTLE LULU #254
- ☐ LOONEY TUNES #27
- ☐ MICKEY MOUSE #198
- ☐ THE PINK PANTHER #67
- ☐ PORKY PIG #90
- ☐ POPEYE THE SAILOR #149
- ☐ RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! #90
- ☐ SUPER GOOF #54
- ☐ TOM AND JERRY #321
- ☐ TWEETY AND SYLVESTER #96
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VAMPIRELLA #81
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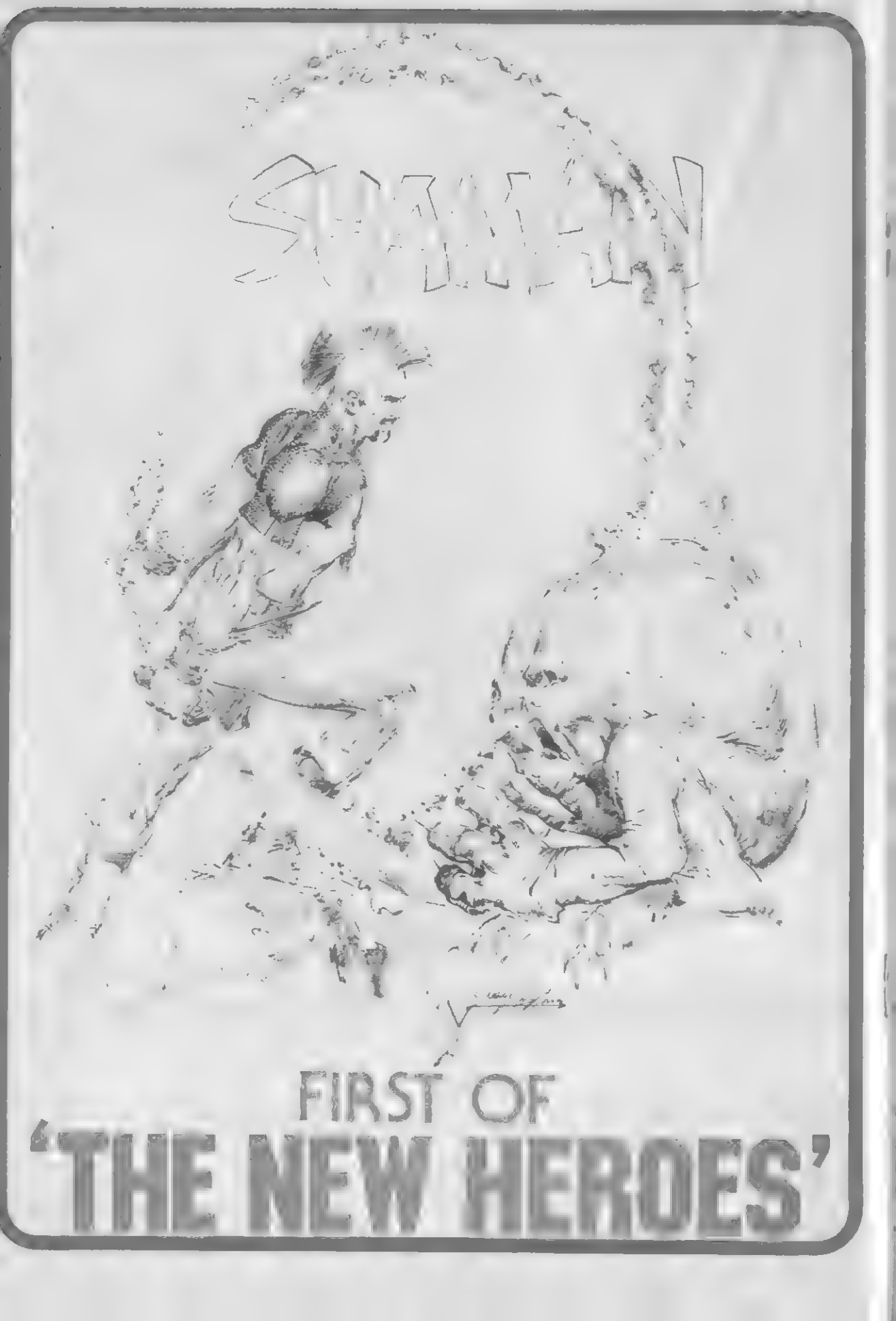
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STAR HAWKS
by Ron Goulart & Gil Kane

SOMETIMES A GEEK, YOU MAKE TOUGH FOR ANYBODY TO SHOW CONCERN FOR YOU.
OKAY MAYBE SO.. WHAT HAPPENED ON THAT SKI FLOOR UNSETTLED ME. I'M SORRY
ALTHOUGH UNSETTLED IS PROBABLY TOO MILD A WORD
I GUESS SO, SINCE THEY KILLED OUR CONTACT AND THEN TRIED TO DO YOU IN!
AND AT THIS POINT, REX WE AREN'T EVEN SURE WHO THEY ARE!
BLAST! FIRST YOU TELL ME I CAN.
LISTEN, KINSMAN RAKER, WE DECIDED WE NEED THOSE STAR HAWKS ALIVE!
THEY'LL BE A LOT MORE USEFUL TO THE BROTHERHOOD THAT WAY!
YOU GO AHEAD AND START THE USUAL PROCEDURES...WE WANT THEM UNDER OUR CONTROL!
IS THAT PERFECTLY CLEAR?
YES!
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HERE WE ARE IN THE BIGGEST DARN HOTEL ON THE PLANET. AND WE DON'T KNOW WHERE TO LOOK NEXT!
TOO BAD OUR CONTACT WAS DEAD WHEN YOU...
BUT HE WASN'T DEAD WHEN I FIRST FOUND HIM, REX!
YOU MEAN THE GUY HAD A CHANCE TO SAY SOMETHING?
YES, HE DID.
BUT IT DIDN'T MAKE ANY SENSE..
ALL HE SAID WAS..."TROCADERO JUNCTION!"
WHOA NOW! I THINK I KNOW WHAT HE MEANT!
SNAP!
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The Menomonee Falls Gazette

MY, YOU SEEM HORRIBLY UPSET, RAKER!
I'VE GOT A CHANCE TO GET RID OF CHAVEZ AND JAXAN!
BUT NOW THE BROTHERHOOD ME TO LET THEM LIVE!
"THOSE BLASTED STAR HAWKS FOULED UP OUR PLANS TO TAKE OVER THE KANDELL WEAPONS COMPLEX. THE N DOW ADORED ME..."
"ONCE I GOT HER DAUGHTER OUT OF THE WAY I'D HAVE RUN THE WHOLE SETUP.
"BUT THEN JAXAN AND CHAVEZ HAD TO COME BARGING IN..."
OKAY CHAVEZ, LET'S CATCH THEM!

"THEY CAUGHT UP WITH ME IN THE NIGHTWOOD FOREST. JAXAN THOUGHT HIS IDIOT PARTNER WAS DEAD..."
YOU KILLED CHAVEZ!
THERE'S NO STAR HAWK I CAN'T HANDLE!
"I SHOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DESTROY JAXAN RIGHT THERE."
"BUT SOMEHOW HE GOT THE BEST OF ME..."

STAR HAWKS
by Ron Goulart & Gil Kane

"AT THE END OF OUR FIGHT, JAXAN FORCED ME INTO A JUNGLE STREAM, HELD ME UNDER..."
AND LEFT ME FOR DEAD!"
BUT I SURVIVED. I'M GOOD AT THAT..."
I WON'T MISS THIS CHANCE TO GET EVEN WITH JAXAN.
NO MATTER WHAT THE BROTHERHOOD ORDERS!
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OKAY OUR CONTACT'S DYING WORDS WERE 'TROCADERO JUNCTION'...
THAT HAPPENS TO BE THE THEME SONG OF THE ORCHESTRA THAT PLAYS ON THE BALLROOM FLOOR
THEY CALL THEMSELVES A SWING BAND, DON'T THEY, REX? PLAY SOME KIND OF ANTIQUE MUSIC THAT WAS POPULAR ON PLANET EARTH CENTURIES AGO.
CORRECT, CHAVEZ. I FIGURE OUR INFORMANT WANTED US TO CHECK THE BIG BAND FLOOR.
THAT'S GOT TO BE WHERE WE'RE GOING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CRIMINAL OUTFIT HEADQUARTERED IN THE MAXIMUS.
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SO HOW DO WE CASE THE SET UP?
WE WALK RIGHT IN TONIGHT, POSING AS CUSTOMERS.
HOY, EXCEPT FOR AN OCCASIONAL MURDER, THIS IS A FUNFILLED ASSIGNMENT!
AND IF THERE'S ONE PLACE WHERE I SHINE IT'S ON THE DANCE FLOOR!

The Menomonee Falls Gazette

T S POSS B_E OUR CONTACT'S LAST WORDS DIDN'T MEAN ANYTH NG
COME ON, AL CE K.. DY NG MESSAGES ALWAYS MEAN SOMETHING!
Cafe
HE MUST HAVE WANTED US TO NVEST GATE TH S FLOOR
DON'T YOU THINK IT WOULD HELP OUR COVER IF I DANCE WITH A FEW OF THE NIFTIER-LOOKING LADIES?
E_SEWHERE N THE HOTE_ .
BLAST! WHAT'S TH S?
THE STAR HAWKS ARE ON F_OOR 56!
THAT'S MUCH TOO CLOSE TO THE CENTER OF THINGS!
KANE GAINES
4-23
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THE DYING WORDS OF THEIR INFORMANT HAVE LED THE STAR HAWKS TO...
THE BIG BAND FLOOR OF THE HOTE_ MAX WELCOMES YOU;
AND NOW FOR YOUR DANCING PLEASURE HERE'S THE ME_LOW MAESTRO OF MUSIC AND RHYTH- BUNNY BIX AND HIS BOUNCIN' BAND!
THIS PLACE S IMMENSE..
..AND WE DON'T HAVE ANY SPECIFIC NOTION OF WHAT WE'RE SEARCH NG FOR.
WE'RE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR ANYTH NG AND EVERYTH NG SUSPICIOUS, ALICE K. .
MEANWHILE WOULD YOU CARE TO DANCE?
HOY THAT REMINDS ME...
...I'D BEST GET TO WORK BOLSTERING MY DISGU SE AS AN INNOCENT DANCE BUFF!

STAR HAWKS
by Ron Goulart & Gil Kane

I FEEL A CERTAIN KINSHIP WITH YOU, MISS...
...SHALL WE DANCE?
LEAPIN' HYENAS! I'D LOVE TO!
WHAT THEY'RE PLAYING NOW'S FOR JITTERBUGGING. CAN YOU DO THAT?
WITH YOU AS MY PARTNER I CAN ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING!
HOT DIGGITY! THEN LET'S GET GOING!
ZAM!

The Menomonee Falls Gazette

REX, THAT MAN . . . IT'S DENZLO, ONE OF THE MISSING DIPLOMATS!
EASY NOW DENZLO, WE'RE FRIENDS . . WITH THE INTER-PLAN LAW SERVICE.
BEEN THERE... DAYS... FINALLY GOT A CHANCE TO... TO ESCAPE.
WHO GRABBED YOU? CALL THEMSELVES.. THE BROTHERHOOD.
THEY WANTED TO.. PROCESS ME!

THIS BROTHERHOOD ORGANIZATION IS SPREADING THROUGH OUR PLANET SYSTEM..
THEY SEIZED ME N EMPRESS BROUGHT ME HERE.
THEY'VE BEEN QUESTIONING ME. ABOUT EVERY POLITICAL SECRET I KNOW...
. . USING ALL KINDS OF GADGETS AND DRUGS TO TAKE OVER MY MIND!
IS THIS CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS FOR THE OUTFIT?
I . . I'M NOT SURE...
. . BUT THIS HIDDEN BASE IS THEIR BIGGEST ON OUR PLANET.
OKAY, WE'RE GOING TO NEED A BACK-UP SQUAD.
CHAVEZ YOU BETTER CONTACT THE HOOSEGOW!
YEAH, AND VERY SWIFTLY!

STAR HAWKS
by Ron Goulart & Gil Kane

WE'LL HAVE TO POSTPONE ANY FURTHER RUG CUTTING...
...GOT SOMETHING RELATIVELY CRUCIAL TO HANDLE!
OH, RATS!
I CAN SHOW YOU THE ENTRANCE TO THE HEADQUARTERS...
...ONE OF THE SECRET ENTRANCES IS BEHIND THE BANDSTAND.
WE'D BETTER TAKE A CAREFUL LOOK AROUND
I WAS KEPT HERE FOR A GOOD MANY DAYS..
AND YOU'RE BACK FOR ANOTHER STAY, DENZLO!
ALONG WITH YOUR STAR HAWK FRIENDS!
WHAM!

GOOD EVENING, JAXAN. I HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO WELCOME YOU UNTIL NOW!
RAKER!
SORRY TO SEE YOU'RE NOT AS DEAD AS I THOUGHT!
NO, I SURVIVED YOUR ATTEMPT TO KILL ME.
AND NOW I'M IN A POSITION TO DESTROY BOTH YOU AND THE LOVELY CHIEF AGENT BENYON!
MAYBE NOT RAKER!
NO! I'M RIGHT THIS TIME!
WHAP!
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The Menomonee Falls Gazette

AND AS FOR YOU, DEAR ALICE K...
ZZIMM
ALIEN FOUNDRY
5-2
RAKER YOU'RE SO TERRIBLY HEADSTRONG
...YOU WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO INJURE THESE TWO STAR HAWKS!
YOU REALLY MUSTN'T DEFY THE BROTHERHOOD!
THAT WOULD BE AN ABSOLUTELY HORRIBLE MISTAKE!
THEY'RE GOING TO DIE!

STAR HAWKS
by Ron Goulart & Gil Kane

NOW TO ARRANGE A SPLENDID ACCIDENT FOR THESE TWO.
BUT, RAKER, IT'S TERRIBLY WRONG TO GO AGAINST THE BROTHERHOOD. NOT TO MENTION DANGEROUS!
AND IN THE HOOSEGOW...
LANDSAKES, NORLEANS, I'M PLEASED AS PUNCH AL CE K. AND REX ARE TOGETHER AT THAT HOTEL!
WHAT A PERFECT GET-UP FOR A ROMANCE TO BLOSSOM!
YEAH, BUT CHAVEZ IS ALONG TOO, AND...
OOPS! ONE OF MY EMERGENCY WANTS ME!
BZZZZ!
KANE GOULART
5-3
HI, CHAVEZ, WE WERE JUST..
HOY! ALL SORTS OF TROUBLES ARE COMMENCING HERE!
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THE HOOSEGOW GETS A CALL FROM CHAVEZ...
SO THINGS ARE HAPPENING AT THE HOTEL MAXIMUS?
THAT THEY ARE! WE LOCATED ONE OF THE MISSING DIPLOMATS...
...AND LEARNED THIS JOINT IS THE LAIR OF A CROOKED OUTFIT CALLED THE BROTHERHOOD!
KANE GOULART
5-4
© 1978 by NEA, Inc.
THEY'VE GOT A MIND CONTROL LAB GOING AND ZANG KNOWS WHAT ELSE!
SO SEND US A BACKUP SQUAD QUICK AND...
ZAM!
KARASH!
CHAVEZ!

The Menomonee Falls Gazette

NOY! HERE COMES A REAL INVASION OF PR VACY!
NAR! I'M GONNA MOP UP DE JOINT WIT YOUSE, CURLY!
I'M GONNA PUNCH YER TICKET FER YA!
GET OUT, YOU CHROME-PLATED GOON! I DIDN'T R NG FOR ROOM SERVICE!
CRASH
LISTEN F YOU DESTROY ANY MORE OF THE DECOR, I'LL COMPLAIN TO THE MANAGEMENT!
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FO:ST I'LL CRUNCH YER NOGG N!
SMAK O!
ZAM!
T'S GOING TO TAKE..
ALL THE FABLED CHAVEZ F GHTING SK LL..
... TO BEAT THIS CLUNK!

NOY! THERE'S ONLY SO MUCH BOBB NG AND WEAV NG I CAN DO...
.. THEN I'LL HAVE TO TANGLE WITH TH S LOAD OF NUTS AND BOLTS!
I'M GONNA DECK YA DIS T.ME, SK NHEAD!
AND SOMEWHERE N THE HOTEL...
...A SMALL HERD OF EOH PPUS ARE DISTURBED BY STRANGE ADDITIONS TO THEIR LANDSCAPE.
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STAR HAWKS
by Ron Goulart & Gil Kane

HOY! AS CHAVEZ WOULD SAY... HOW LONG WAS I OUT?
AND WHERE'S ALICE <?
HERE! LOOKS LIKE THEY USED A STUNGUN ON HER.
ALICE K COME ON, WAKE UP!
REX...
I'M GLAD... WE'RE BOTH ALIVE!
AT THE MOMENT YEAH.
WE'VE BEEN DUMPED ON THEIR WILD ANIMAL FLOOR...
AND I'VE GOT A HUNCH WE'RE THE ONLY CUSTOMERS TODAY!
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RAKER DUMPED US HERE FOR ONE REASON REVENGE!
HE WANTS US DEAD!
MEANING ALL THE ROBOT ANIMALS HAVE BEEN REPROGRAMMED
RIGHT. YOU CAN BET THEY'VE ALL BEEN SET TO KILL US!
WE CAN EXPECT THE FIRST ATTACK ANY MINUTE.. AND RAKER THOUGHT FULLY TOOK ALL OUR WEAPONS
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WE'LL HAVE TO ASSUME ALL THE CONVENTIONAL EXITS ARE BLOCKED!
ALL IN ALL OUR POSITION ISN'T WHAT YOU'D CALL TERRIFIC!
ON TOP OF WHICH... WE'RE BEING WATCHED!

The Menomonee Falls Gazette

YOU CAN BET RAKER'S WATCHING US RIGHT NOW, REX
YEAH, LOOKS LIKE THE SHOW'S ABOUT TO COMMENCE!
ELSEWHERE IN THE HOTEL CHAVEZ IS HAVING TROUBLES OF HIS OWN...
STAN STILL, DOUBLEDOME! SO'S I KNOCK BOP YOU SE!
SMASH!
BAM!
HOY! ENOUGH ARTFUL DODGING... I'VE GOT TO GET HOLD OF A WEAPON!
C'MON C'MON, SKINHEAD! LES SETTLE DIS OVER WIT!
ZAM!
THIS TIN LOUT IS BLOCKING THE PATH TO MY GUN!
5-9

STAR HAWKS
by Ron Goulart & Gil Kane

CHAVEZ USES A GADJGUN TO TOPPLE TUX.
ZZLUNK!
ZAM! THAT DID A NIFTY JOB..
NOW LET'S FIND OUT WHERE REX AND ALICE K. ARE!
RAKER'S GOT SPY CAMERAS ALL OVER THIS FLOOR...
..SO HE CAN WATCH HIS ROBOT ANIMALS DO US IN!
YEAH, BUT I'M ONLY INTERESTED IN THIS ONE RIGHT HERE!
WE'RE GOING TO BORROW THIS ONE,
AND USE IT TO GET AWAY FREE AND CLEAR!
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ALICE K., WE CAN USE THIS SPY CAMERA OF RAKER'S..
FIRST WE'LL PUT IT OUT OF COMMISSION!
SMAK!
KARAK!
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THEN I'LL SHINNY UP...
...AND SCROUNGE US A FEW PARTS!
BETTER HURRY, REX!
...YONDER COMES TROUBLE!

The Menomonee Falls Gazette

I THINK OUR FIRST ROBOT THREAT IS COMING UP!
THIS POWERPAK FROM THE TV CAMERA HAS ENOUGH VOLTAGE...
...WE CAN USE IT TO FIGHT THESE MECHANICAL CRITTERS!
THERE! ANOTHER TRIUMPH FOR REX, THE BOY INVENTOR...
WHEN I TURN THIS ON, IT OUGHT..
REX! I CAN'T OUTRUN THIS THING!

REX...
...CAN'T GET FREE...
PLEASE... DO SOMETHING!
REX LEAPS FORWARD AS HE TURNS ON THE POWER IN HIS IMPROVISED ELECTRIC SWORD!
LET'S HOPE THIS DARN GADGET WORKS!
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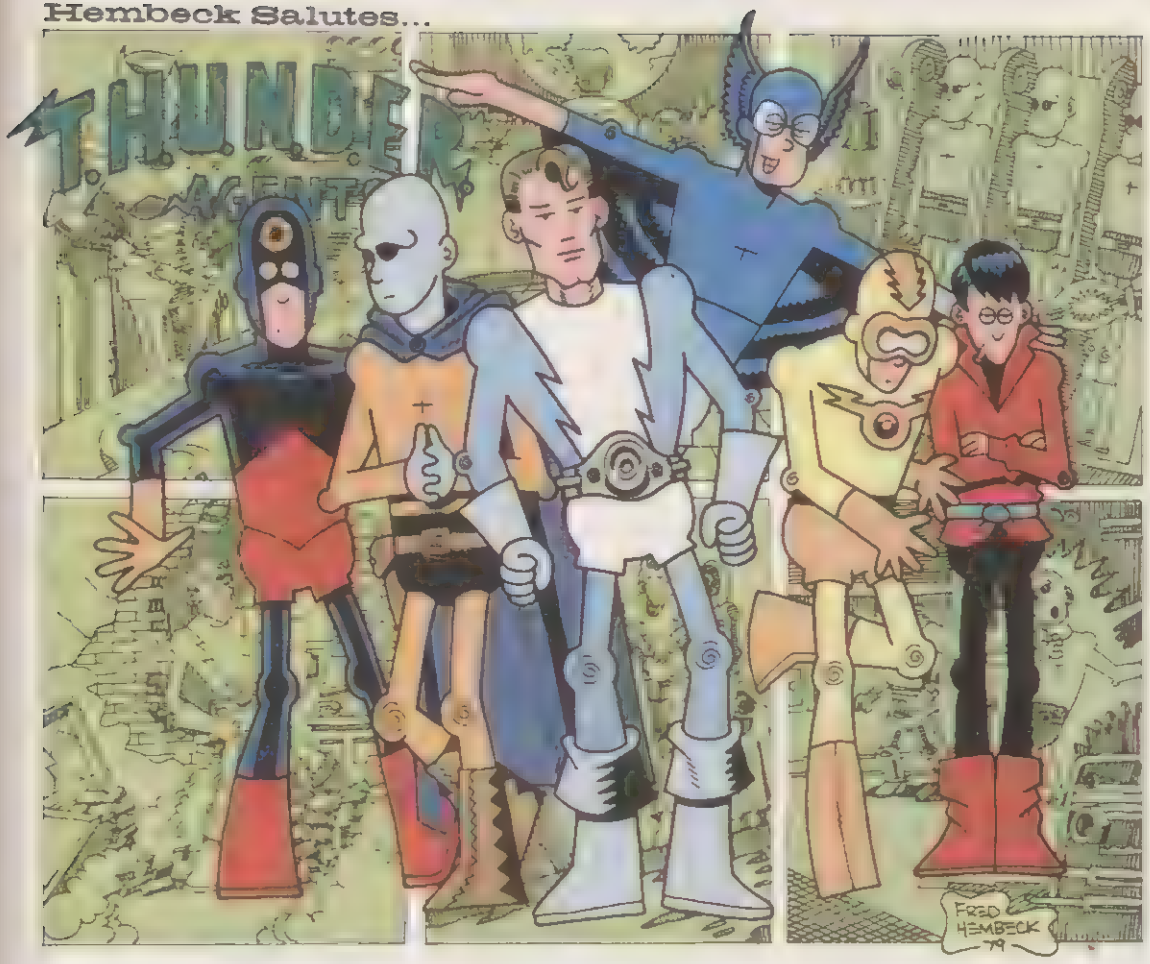
TCR Top 100 Comic Books *

PARTICIPATING: Belen, Cowley - Milwaukee, Larry's Comic Shop - Chicago - Specialty Comic Emporium - New York - Jay and Bob's Comic World - Winnipeg A&M Comics & Books - Miami Comic Investments - Philadelphia Book & Picture - Dayton, Inland Empire Comics - Spokane, Fiction House - Buffalo A Little Book Store - Phoenix Bookie Joint - Canton; Book King - Tacoma; Rock Bottom Used Book Shop - Fayetteville, Arkansas; Graphic Arts Comic Shop - Charleston Comic Book Kingdom - Baltimore; Elde's Comix and Science Fiction - Pittsburgh, Austin Books/B&R Graphics - Austin; Oakleaf Stamps & Coins - Mason City, Illinois; Bob's Comics - Lawndale, California.

This mo.	Title, Publisher, Special features	No. of copies sold
1	THE MICRONAUTS #6 Marvel-Mego	1083
2	STAR WARS #24 Marvel-20th Century-Fox	2891
3	X-MEN #122 Marvel	2829
4	BATTLESTAR GALACTICA #4 Marvel-Universal	2649
	THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #193 Marvel	2598
6	CONAN THE BARBARIAN #99 Marvel-R.E. Howard	2472
7	THE AVENGERS #184 Marvel	2400
8	FANTASTIC FOUR #207 Marvel	2342
9	THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #31 Marvel	2274
10	MARVEL TEAM-UP #83 Marvel, guest-starring The Black Widow	2182
11	SPIDER-WOMAN #15 Marvel	2064
12	SHOGUN WARRIORS #5 Marvel-Mattel	1987
13	THE INCREDIBLE HULK #236 Marvel	1963
14	THE DEFENDERS #72 Marvel	1932
15	IRON MAN #123 Marvel	1846
16	MARVEL PREMIERE #48 Marvel, featuring Ant-Man	1808
17	THOR #284 Marvel	1790
18	THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #40 Marvel, black and white magazine	1618
19	DOCTOR STRANGE #35 Marvel	1530
20	CAPTAIN AMERICA #234 Marvel	1472
21	WARLORD #22 DC	1436
22	MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #52 Marvel, guest-starring Moon Knight	1373
23	TARZAN #25 Marvel-E.R. Burroughs	1358
24	JONAH HEX #24 Marvel-Toho	1274
25	MASTER OF KUNG FU #77 Marvel	1271
26	POWER MAN #51 Marvel	1229
27	GHOST RIDER #16 Marvel	1216
28	MARVEL SUPER SPECIAL #10 Marvel; featuring Star-Lord; color magazine	1205
29	DC COMICS PRESENTS #10 DC, guest-starring Sgt. Rock	1164
30	SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #252 DC	1104
31	HEAVY METAL #25 21st Century; color magazine	1069
32	TARZAN #247 DC	1027
33	JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA #167 DC	1011
34	GREEN LANTERN #117 DC	960
35	ACTION COMICS #496 DC	941
36	DETECTIVE COMICS #484 DC; double-sized	934
37	BATMAN #312 DC	891
38	THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD #151 DC, guest-starring The Flash	871
39	THE FLASH #274 DC	842
40	WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #257 DC, double-sized	763
41	MARVEL TREASURY EDITION #2 Marvel, featuring Fantastic Four, tabloid	751
42	WONDER WOMAN #236 DC	711
43	MARVEL TREASURY EDITION #20 Marvel, featuring The Hulk; tabloid	686
44	JONAH HEX #25 DC	649
45	MARVEL TALES #104 Marvel	642
46	UNCLE SCROOGE #164 Gold Key-Walt Disney	569
47	WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES #464 Gold Key-Walt Disney	530
48	MEN OF WAR #17 DC	513
49	WEIRD WESTERN TALES #56 DC	329
50	EERIE #101 Warren, black and white	318
51	FLASH GORDON #23 Gold Key-King Features	311
52	CREEPY #107 Warren; black and white magazine	308
53	SUPER FRIENDS #21 DC	277
54	WEIRD WAR TALES #76 DC	248
55	SGT. ROCK #329 DC	247
56	WARREN PRESENTS THE ROOK #2 Warren, black and white magazine	228
57	UNKNOWN SOLDIER #228 DC	225
58	HOUSE OF MYSTERY #269 DC	217
59	G.I. COMBAT #214 DC, double-sized	204
60	BEAGLE BOYS VS. UNCLE SCROOGE #3 Gold Key-Walt Disney	191
61	GHOSTS #77 DC	190
62	DONALD DUCK #207 Gold Key-Walt Disney	175
63	SGT. FURY #132 Marvel	160
64	WALT DISNEY SHOWCASE #50 Gold Key-Walt Disney	131
65	TUROK, SON OF STONE #121 Gold Key	98
66	MICKEY MOUSE #195 Gold Key-Walt Disney	94
67	DAISY AND DONALD #37 Gold Key-Walt Disney	85
68	GRIMM'S GHOST STORIES #50 Gold Key	81
69	LITTLE LULU #252 Gold Key	78
70	HAPPY DAYS #2 Gold Key-Paramount	77
71	CHIP 'N' DALE #58 Gold Key-Walt Disney	75
72	BUGS BUNNY #208 Gold Key-Warner Bros.	72
73	CRAZY #50 Marvel, black and white magazine	71
74	BORIS KARLOFF TALES OF MYSTERY #91 Gold Key-Boris Karloff Inc.	68
75	TOM AND JERRY #318 Gold Key-MGM	67
76	RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! #88 Gold Key-Robert Ripley Inc.	58
77	POPEYE THE SAILOR #146 Gold Key-King Features	50
78	WOODY WOODPECKER #178 Gold Key-Walter Lantz	46
79	TWEETY AND SYLVESTER #93 Gold Key-Warner Bros.	44
80	BEEP BEEP, THE ROAD RUNNER #79 Gold Key-Warner Bros.	42
81	PORKY PIG #88 Gold Key-Warner Bros.	42
82	MIGHTY MOUSE #167 Gold Key-Terrytoons	38
83	THE PINK PANTHER #64 Gold Key-Mirish	37
84	HAUNTED #42 Charlton	36
85	GHOST MANOR #43 Charlton	16
86	GHOSTLY TALES #136 Charlton	15
87	BILLY THE KID #129 Charlton	14
88	FIGHTIN' MARINES #143 Charlton	13
89	SCARY TALES #20 Charlton	13
90	WAR #4 Charlton	3
91	GUNFIGHTERS #53 Charlton	12
92	I LOVE YOU #123 Charlton	9
93	SECRET ROMANCE #43 Charlton	8

* - Only 93 titles were rated this month.

Hembeck Salutes...



Review

Despite my misgivings about the value of a regular review column of current comic books -- will my views actually affect anyone else's?-- this is the first of what will be a regular feature of TCR. I'll try to smother my generally iconoclastic leanings for the most part, and judge things on the fannish level I have been attempting (futilely) to regain since comics have become my career. With the new Top 100 chart, I now know what's currently popular, and my first few columns will cover the top titles.

Topping the list this month is THE MICRONAUTS. Over the past twenty years of comics publishing, comics based upon dolls or toys have appeared sporadically with generally little success: Dell's BARBIE AND KEN, DC's CAPTAIN ACTION, and Gold Key's THE MICROBOTS spring to mind. So when Bill Mantlo's idea for a book based upon the Mego line of toys based upon Japanese robot cartoons, I was skeptical. Frankly, although the toys may be well made, I was never enthralled by their design, much preferring cleaner, simpler detail used on pre-STAR WARS costumes. And the idea that a sufficient readership could be built upon a fan-gathering around a set of toys was certainly one I would never have believed. Imagine my chagrin when I discovered THE MICRONAUTS' popularity among the hardcore comics fandom that frequents comic shops.

THE MICRONAUTS is not an original concept. The oft-seen theme of a world enslaved by a power-hungry devil (Baron Karza) with the former ruling family revered by a valiant though outnumbered underground resistance certainly isn't new; pseudo-scientific names like Biotron and Microtron and biotronic strength and roboids have certainly reared their heads before; representative and familiar proper names like Prince Argon, Steve Coffin and Philip Prometheus are common to most Marvel comics; and the subatomic world has been well mined in THE ATOM, THE INCREDIBLE HULK and others.

The graphic storytelling technique is still about average for today's comics. Mike Golden has a very flashy, attractive technique but often fails to select the correct positioning of figures or even the proper order of figures in a panel to make the story flow clearly. Often, the Wrightson/Eisner surface detail works against the storyflow, with some panels only understandable by studying very closely. This does not engender a particularly smooth perusal of an issue, although Golden is improving.

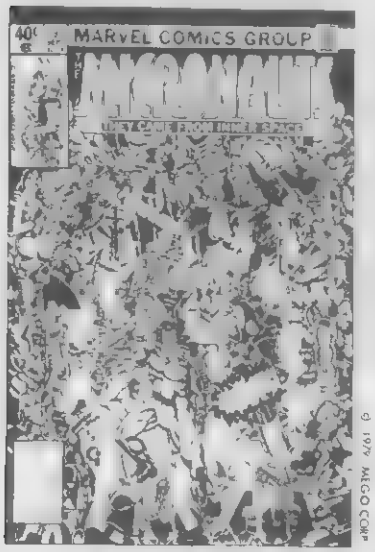
So what is it about THE MICRONAUTS that makes the book so much more successful than THE ATOM and other micro-sized characters, or BATTLESTAR GALACTICA and its ilk with their "space-Nazis are wiping out the universe" battle mentality? It isn't an easy question to answer.

First, and probably most important, has to be the costuming of the six lead characters. As X-MEN and the LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES have shown, flashy costumes -- in a bunch -- can do wonders for a book's circulation. Commander Ronn (Space Glider), Princess Mari (Marionette), Acroyear, Bug, Microtron and Biotron each have colorful and complementary costumes which have a lot to do with attracting readers. And obviously, in these days of STAR WARS robots and BATTLESTAR GALACTICA

robots, the toys' resemblence to them certainly isn't a detriment.

On a more important level, though, Bill Mantlo has, with Golden's help, made sure that we haven't gotten lost in the morass of a bunch of bizarrely named, unrecognizable characters by making sure that each one is identified by name as often as possible. Golden draws the heads of the characters onto nearly every splash page and every time the Micronauts talk to each other they manage to mention the other's name. This I believe to be quite important to the reader who picks it up in the middle of the (almost continuous) storyline that is running at the moment and needs to know more than a plot rehash.

The plotting, although replete with the inevitable Marvel problem of alienating the people who come in in the middle by being quite complicated, is at least logical and at most engrossing.



The Micronauts are not revenge-hungry destroyers, who'll blast whatever gets in their way, they're people stranded for awhile on Earth (until issue #12 resolves this current Homeworld conflict) who are trying their best to stay alive. No anti-heroes in this group. Earth-inhabitants have also, thus far, not been treated with the kind of contempt too often used by heavy-handed science fiction writers trying to make the sad point that human beings are evil. Although I can't say I like the continuous action-style of writing, I haven't been offended by anything thus far and am actually interested in seeing the story end.

And, of course, the art is very nice. The storytelling problems aside, Mike Golden looks like someone who could be very durable in comics if he can keep up the pace. (Golden will be leaving the book with #12, with plans for further work still up in the air.) He certainly isn't at peek skill yet -- his human beings still aren't totally convincing (Steve Coffin seems to be crying ice cream in a few scenes) -- but I can certainly see why his art appeals to so many. He doesn't take shortcuts, and he gives character to the machinery he draws. It will be interesting to see whether the book can retain its audience when Howard Chaykin takes over with a style several generations apart from Golden's, which trades Golden's fluid, inky shadow for the square-jawed angularity of Alex Toth combined with the illustrator's penline.

Still, nothing about the book is particularly unusual -- except perhaps the feeling I get that Mantlo, Golden, Joe Rubinstein (and Bob McLeod), Tom Orzechowski, John Costanza, Glynis Wein and Carl Gafford really CARE about making the book the best one they can. I guess that is pretty unusual.

- Mike Tiefenbacher

[Continued from page 3]

what is selling across the country -- and to readers who'd like to know which books everyone else is reading and apparently enjoying.

I've also reinstituted a comic book review column that will appear on a regular basis. Although I wasn't entirely conscious of it, I guess my plan for it echoes the TV GUIDE style of reviewing a single series in each issue, in the hope that I will be able to give a fair overview of each.

We've also brought back Jacob Moraine's COMIC STRIP CIRCUS, which will also appear regularly. Jacob covered the comic strip field for us for six years in The Menomonee Falls GAZETTE, and should help fulfill the requests for comic strip news for many of you.

You may notice certain missing comic strips in our GAZETTE section. There have been two reasons for this: Some of them have run or will be running out (BATMAN, BEN CASEY; at the moment we've run out of POPEYE to reprint, although we'll be getting more); and another (HOWARD THE DUCK) we've been legally asked to cease printing. Despite our belief that we retain the right to print a comic strip that we have already paid for, Marvel's legal people have demanded that we stop, return all proofs (even those we have printed) and implicitly prevented us from ever using CONAN, HULK or SPIDER-MAN strips in these pages. So, we're sorry that we'll be unable to supply the strip to you that subscribed to the GAZETTE for it, but our hands are tied. At least the story ended.

I performed some unintentional sabotage on last issue's ASTERIX installment by Paulette Carroll. Adding to the inherent complications of the subject matter, I managed to mix up a paragraph on page ten, column two: following line two ("(I've seen...") skip five lines down to "... many a third generation German..." Then, at the end of the column, return to line three ("... who embarks upon ASTERIX without...") through line seven, which should lead you correctly through to the top of column three. If you understand my instructions, you probably figured it out before on your own anyway. My humble apologies, Paulette and readers.

- Mike Tiefenbacher

Comic Strip Circus

By JACOB MORAINE

In answer to thousands of requests, COMIC STRIP CIRCUS returns. So stop your ###%%%!!! requests already, Mike! I can't stand it anymore.

Though Archie Goodwin has replaced Ron Goulart as writer of STAR HAWKS, he has no plans to give up writing either the SECRET AGENT CORRIGAN comic strip or the STAR WARS comic book. He is not writing the STAR WARS strip, as has been rumored in some places. Russ Manning writes as well as draws the STAR WARS strip, with maybe a plotting assist from George Lucas.

Manning continues to write the TARZAN Sunday strip as well as lay it out. The artwork is completed by his longtime assistant Mike Royer. The artwork doesn't look as if Royer had been heavily influenced by having inked so many of Jack Kirby's comic book pages in recent years.

On April 16, 1979, Herbert L. Block ("Herblock") was awarded the 1978 Pulitzer Prize for Editorial Cartooning. This is Herblock's third Pulitzer, having previously won the prize as Best Editorial Cartoonist in 1942 and 1954. The Washington POST cartoonist, whose work is syndicated by the Field Newspaper Syndicate, is universally respected, even by those who disagree with him politically. Yet his award this year is controversial.

The Editorial Cartooning Award Nominating Jury was asked by the Pulitzer Prize Board to submit three to five nominees in alphabetical order, though they could list them in order of preference if they felt they must. Last year's prizes caused much complaining because the Board ignored so many of the Juries' preferences. This year the Cartooning Jury took no chances and submitted only one nomination: Robert Englehart of the Dayton Journal-Herald, whose work is syndicated by the Copley News Service.

"We thought he had a great year and was head and shoulders above the rest," said the chairman of the Cartoon-

1979 Season Schedule

	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	
	[illegible]	[illegible]		NFL MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL				ABC
	[illegible]	WHITE SHADOW		M*A*S*H	WKRP IN CINCINNATI	[illegible]		CBS
	[illegible]	LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRAIRIE		NBC MONDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES				NBC
	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	
TUESDAY	[illegible]	HAPPY DAYS	HART IN SAN FRANCISCO	THREE'S COMPANY		TAXI	THE LAZARUS SYNDROME	ABC
	[illegible]	WE'RE CRUSIN'		CBS TUESDAY NIGHT MOVIE				CBS
	[illegible]	THE MISADVENTURES OF SHERIFF LOBO		NBC TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES				NBC
	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	
WEDNESDAY	(Local)	EIGHT IS ENOUGH		CHARLIE'S ANGELS			VEGA$	ABC
	(Local)	WORKING STIFFS	THE LAST RESORT	CBS WEDNESDAY NIGHT MOVIE				CBS
	(Local)	REAL PEOPLE		DIFF'RENT STROKES	HELLO, LARRY		FROM HERE TO ETERNITY	NBC
	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	
THURSDAY	(Local)	LAVERNE AND SHIRLEY	BENSON	BARNEY MILLER	SOAP		20 - 20	ABC
	(Local)	THE WALTONS		HAWAII FIVE-O			BARNABY JONES	CBS
	Local	BUCK ROGERS IN THE 25TH CENTURY		QUINCY			KATE COLUMBO	NBC
	7:30	8:00	[illegible]	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	
FRIDAY	Local	FANTASY ISLAND		ABC FRIDAY NIGHT MOVIE				ABC
	(Local)	THE INCREDIBLE HULK		THE DUKES OF HAZZARD			DALLAS	CBS
	(Local)	[illegible]		THE ROCKFORD FILES			THE FORCE	NBC
	7:30	8:00	[illegible]	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	
SATURDAY	[illegible]	THE ROPERS	[illegible]	THE LOVE BOAT			HART TO HART	ABC
	(Local)	BAD NEWS BEARS	[illegible]	BIG SHAMUS, LITTLE SHAMUS			PARIS	CBS
	Local	CHiPs		B.J. AND THE BEAR			THE MAN CALLED SLOANE	NBC
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30
SUNDAY	OUT OF THE BLUE	A NEW KIND OF FAMILY	MORK AND MINDY! THE ASSOCIATES		ABC SUNDAY NIGHT MOVIE			ABC
	60 MINUTES		ARCHIE BUNKER'S PLACE	ONE DAY AT A TIME	ALICE	THE JEFFERSONS	TRAPPER JOHN, M.D.	CBS
	THE WORLD OF DISNEY		[illegible]				PEYTON PLACE	NBC

ing Jury, Stanley Asimov, assistant publisher of the Long Island NEWSDAY. However, the Pulitzer Board was angered by the Jury's refusal to submit two more nominees and rejected Englehart rather than give in to what the Board felt was the Cartooning Jury's attempt at coercion. Instead, they gave the Prize to Herblock "for the whole of his work," rather than for work done specifically in 1979. So, while no one feels Herblock's Pulitzer is undeserved, there is some grumbling about it.

Another cartoonist honored for his long, fruitful career was Walter Lantz, who created Andy Panda and Woody Woodpecker after having taken over Oswald the Rabbit from Walt Disney shortly before Disney created Mickey Mouse, received a special Oscar April 9th on the Academy Awards show. Lantz had the longest successful career of producing animated short movies of anyone. When other animators moved into TV and feature films, Lantz continued making new shorts for Universal release. His WOODY WOODPECKER TV series made up of old movie shorts has been a big success and still does very well in syndication. While the WOODY WOODPECKER comic strip ended in the fifties, the comic book is still being produced by Gold Key. Walter Lantz is a real pioneer of animation who fully deserves the honor bestowed upon him.

Media Review

Well, let's see what's on the comic book-related television horizon for the fall season: Well, WONDER WOMAN is dead for sure, though THE INCREDIBLE HULK continues. ABC's only primetime comic-related show is HAPPY DAYS. But NBC has BUCK ROGERS IN THE 25TH CENTURY pencilled in on Thursdays, though it's up against the deadly LAVERNE AND SHIRLEY and it'll have its work cut out for it. Gil Gerard, Erin Grey and Tim O'Connor reprise their roles in the movie, which did about $10,000,000 worth of business in its saturation run. The show will take the place of BATTLESTAR GALACTICA (cancelled by ABC, but NBC and Fred Silverman, who helped develop the show at ABC are showing some interest in reviving it at NBC) on the production schedule of Glen Larson-Universal and their special effects team. NBC is also trying to resurrect the MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E.-style of secret agent program with THE MAN CALLED SLOANE, a government operative that fights a worldwide crime group called Kartel. The pilot had Robert Hogan, but they're going to recast... The other comics-tie-ins are on Saturday mornings. ABC has THE WORLD'S GREATEST SUPER FRIENDS, retitled to tie-in with the comic strip, from Hanna-Barbera again. But they also have something called THE PLASTIC MAN COMEDY/ADVENTURE SHOW, a two hour umbrella title for five episodes including PLASTIC MAN (no indication whether this is a cartoon or the "live-action" version so often referred to) and MIGHTYMAN AND YOKK, a superhero and his trusty canine, among others. It's from Ruby and Spears, who handle the current FANGFACE show. They follow that with a Depatie Freleng version of SPIDER-WOMAN, with some Stan Lee input (not to be confused with the Filmation WEB-WOMAN segment of TARZAN AND THE SUPER SEVEN). In the meantime, NBC has cancelled the FANTASTIC FOUR show but selected Ben Grimm for stardom as one-third of the 90 minute GODZILLA MEETS THE SHMOO AND THE THING. Yes, that second character is Al Capp's pliable (and edible) creation. Hanna-Barbera is the supplier. And Filmation brings back THE NEW ADVENTURES OF FLASH GORDON, based on a two hour feature TV movie that will appear in the fall. This is the cartoon version, not to be confused with the Dino DeLaurentiis live-action in production now.

SUPERMAN 2 began production March 31st, according to VARIETY. Last word was that most of the old story

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BARBARIAN COMICS #1,2,3
BARN OF FEAR (Alcala,Shaw,Todd,etc.)
BAYCON PROGRAM OF ART '77,'78
BENT (S.Clay Wilson)
BERKELEY CON COMICS('74) (Holmes,etc.)
BETTY BOOP FUNNIES (Larry Latham)
BICENTENNIAL GROSS-OUTS (Wm.Stout)
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BRAIN FANTASY #2
CALIFORNIA COMICS #1
CARTOON HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE #1,2
*CASCADE #1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9/10,11/12,13
CHECKERED DEMON #1,2 (S.Clay Wilson)
CHEECH WIZARD (Vaughn Bode)
CHEECH WIZARD/SCHIZOPHRENIA (Bode)
CHOCOLATE ALPHABET(Harlan Ellison,L.Todd)
COCAINE COMIX (Stout,DiCaprio,etc.)
COLOR (Moscoso--Full Color)
COMIX INDEX #1 (from England)
COMPLEAT FART (Lee Marrs)
COOCHY COOTY MEN'S COMIX (Robt.Williams)
CORN FED COMICS #1,2 (Kim Deitch)
CORPORATE CRIME #1 (Irons,Deitch)
COVER-UP LOWDOWN (Kinney,Mayrides)

ALL-CRUMB COMIX:
BIG ASS #1,2
BLACK & WHITE
DESPAIR
HOMEGROWN
HYTONE
MR.NATURAL #1,2,3
MOTOR CITY #1
PEOPLE'S COMICS
XYZ

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75¢ea(Color Covers): #146,148,149,151-153, 155-163.
$1.50ea(New Large Size with Comics): #164-169.

DAN O'NEILL #4,5 (Vol.2,#1,2)
DEVIANT SLICE #1,2 (Irons)
DIRTY LAUNDRY #1,2 (Crumb,Kominsky)
DITKO: MR.A #1; WHA?!!?
D.O.A. (Jim Osborne)
DOPE #1,2 (Cabarga,Pound Covers)
DOPIN'DAN #2,3 (Ted Richards)
DR.ATOMIC #2,3,4 (Larry Todd)
DROOL (Skursky,Reese,etc.)
DUTCH TREAT #1 (Everdt Geradts)
DYNAMITE DAMSELS (Roberta Gregory)
EL PERFECTO (Crumb,etc.)
ENIGMA (Larry Todd)
ENGLISH COMIX: IT'S ONLY ROCK'N ROLL; ROCK'N ROLL MADNESS #1,2; ZIP; VIEW FROM THE VOID; STREET QUOMIX; DOPE FIEND FUNNIES; COSMIC COMIX #6; BRAIN STORM Vol.1,#3,4,Vol.2,#1
ETERNAL COMICS (John Thompson)
E.Z.WOLF (Ted Richards)
E.Z.WOLF'S ASTRAL OUTHOUSE (Richards)
FACTS O'LIFE SEX ED.FUNNIES(Shelton)
FAERIE STAR #1 (Meugniot,etc.)
FANTAGOR #1,3(Color) (Richard Corben)
FAT FREDDY'S CAT #1,2,3,4 (Shelton)
FEAR & LAUGHTER (Todd,Stout,Shaw,etc.)
FEDS'N HEADS #1 (Gilbert Shelton)
FEELGOOD FUNNIES (Foolbert Sturgeon)
FELCH (Spain,Crumb,Williams)
FEVER DREAMS (Corben,Strnad)
FIRST KINGDOM #1-9 (Jack Katz)
FLAMED OUT FUNNIES #1,2 (Willy Murphy)
SHARY FLENNIKEN'S SKETCHBOOK
DROUGHT CHIC (Shary Flenniken)
FOG CITY #1,2 (Metzger,Holmes,etc.)
FOUR SKETCHBOOKS (Spain,Griffy,etc.)
THE 40-YEAR OLD HIPPIE (Ted Richards)
FREAK BROTHERS #1,2,3,4,5 (Shelton)
FRESH BLOOD (J.Michael Leonard)
THE FUNNY BOOK #1,2
GAY HEART THROBS #1
GIRL FIGHT #1,2 (Trina)
GIVE ME LIBERTY (Shelton)
GREAT DIGGS OF'77 (R.Diggs)
HEAVY(Tragi-Comix) (Greg Irons)
HEEBIE JEEBIE #2 (Joel Milke,etc.)
HOT CRACKERS (Peter Clapp)
HOT STUF'#4
HUMAN DRAMA (Spain,Irons,Brand)
IMAGE OF THE BEAST (Reprint;new cover)
IMAGINE #1,2,3
INSECT FEAR #3 (Wilson,Spain,Brand)
IRON SOUL (Todd,Boxell,Redondo)
JIZ (Crumb,Spain,Wilson,Lynch,etc.)
JOEL BECK'S COMICS & STORIES
JUICE CITY (Petertil,Metzger,etc.)
JUNKWAFFEL #1,3,4 (Vaughn Bode)
JOURNAL OF POPULAR CULTURE #1
KURTZMAN KOMIX (New Cover;Anthology)
LAUGH IN THE DARK (Spain,Deitch)
LEAN YEARS (Deitch,Trina,Pound)
LEATHER NUN (Sheridan,Jaxon,Crumb)
LEFT FIELD FUNNIES (Bobby London)
LEGEND OF TAURAN (Dal Chele)
LEGION OF CHARLIES (Greg Irons)
LEMME OUTA HERE (Crumb,Deitch,etc.)
LIGHT (Greg Irons;Color)
MAGIC CARPET #1 (Alcala;"Voltar")
MAMA DRAMAS (Trina,Shelby,etc.)
THE MAN (Vaughn Bode)
MANHUNT #1,2
MAYHEM #1 (Alex Nino Cover)
MEEF #1,2 (Sheridan/Schrier)
MENDOCINO FUNNIES #1 (Jayce,etc.)
MIDDLE CLASS FANTASIES #1,2 (Lane)
MONDO SNARFO (Crumb,Kitchen,etc.)
MONOLITH #1 (Welz)
MOONDOG #3 (George Metzger)
MOTHER'S OATS #3 (Sheridan/Schrier)
MU,THE LAND THAT NEVER WAS (Metzger)
MYRON MOOSE #2 (Foster,Davis)
MYSTICOGRIFIL #2 (Scott Shaw)
NARD'N PAT (Jay Lynch;new edition)
NO DUCKS #1,2 (Boxell,etc.)
OCCULT LAFF PARADE (Deitch,Kinney)
PARSIFAL (P.Craig Russell;full color)
PORK (S.Clay Wilson)
PORK POSTER (S.Clay Wilson;unsigned)
PROJUNIOR (Crumb,Lynch,etc.)
PSYCHOTIC ADVENTURES #1,2,3 (C.Dallas)
PUDGE,GIRL BLIMP #1,2,3 (Lee Marrs)

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REAL PULP #2 (Brand,Wilson,Dallas)
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SACRED & PROFANE (J.Green/Binky Brown)
SAN DIEGO COMIC CON'77 (Nino Cover)
SCARLETT PILGRIM (Trina)
SEX & AFFECTION (Jim Himes)
SHORT ORDER COMIX #2 (Griffy,etc.)
SHOW & TELL (Justin Green)
SKULL #2,4,5
SLEAZY SCANDALS OF THE SILVER SCREEN
SLOW DEATH #2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9
SNAPPY SAMMY SMOOT (Skip Williamson)
SNARF #2,3,4,6,7,8
SNATCH #1,2,3 (Crumb,Wilson,etc.)
SOFT CORE (1973;Landeros,Michael J.)
SPACE DOG #1 (Warren Greenwood)
SPACED #1 (Pinkoski)
SPHINX #3 (John Thompson)
CODY STARBUCK (Howard Chaykin;Color)
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STAR WEEVILS (J.Michael Leonard)
SUBVERT #3 (Spain)
SUPERBITCH (Ira Harmon)
TALES FROM THE TUBE (Rick Griffin)
TALES FROM THE SPHINX #2(Thompson)
TALES OF SEX & DEATH #2 (Brand,etc.)
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TWO #1,2 (S.Clay Wilson)
TWO FISTED ZOMBIES (Veitch Bros.)
TWO FOOLS (T.Richards,Willy Murphy)
VENTURE #5 (Adams Cover;Cirocco,etc.)
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WET SATIN #1,2 (Trina,Marrs,etc.)
WHITE COMANCHE;RED RAIDER;BLOOD ON MOON
WHITE WHORE FUNNIES #1
WIMMEN'S COMIX #1,2,3,4,5,6,7
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has been junked and the entire storyline will undergo alteration, largely due to the unintentional exit of director Richard Donner... Robin Williams, the title character in the film version of POPEYE, is talking about Gilda Radner as Olive Oyl now. Robert Altman is definitely directing... There's a LITTLE LULU movie being touted in trade ads by Ziv International (remember those '50s TV shows Zip said? I didn't know they were still around) which may or may not be related to the ABC WEEKEND SPECIAL that appeared a few months back... MAD MAGAZINE will be the inspiration for a film based on it, a la NATIONAL LAMPOON and ANIMAL HOUSE, with Warner Bros. doing the filming. Al Feldstein indicated that the movie would NOT feature Alfred E. Neuman, though one wonders how much of MAD is translatable to film... STARLOG MAGAZINE is also doing a film, this one called STARLOG'S INTERGALACTIC PICTURE SHOW. Filming has almost been completed... The BBC and National Public Radio are collaborating on a STAR WARS radio show for next February or March. 13 half hour (probably weekly) episodes will be done, with the first movie, the novel of the movie and SPLINTER IN THE MIND'S EYE available as source material. No references were made to cast, but it's possible that the movie's stars could be involved... There's a feature cartoon coming from Lisberger Studios called ANIMALYMPICS, which pits animals of many nations against each other in friendly competition. Graham Gouldman of 10cc will supply the music... Another feature length cartoon has not been as lucky. THE THIEF AND THE COBBLER has been in production for fourteen years and needs three more years and $7,000,000 to finish. Richard Williams (RAGGEDY ANN AND ANDY) is the producer, and veteran animators Art Babbit (Disney) and Ken Harris (Warner Bros.) have been involved full-time on the project. Williams is seeking the necessary backing to finish it up. He describes it as not only funny, but "the finest animated film the world's ever seen." Or may see.

The Firesign Theatre is doing a film version of THE FUTURE ADVENTURES OF NICK DANGER, their temporally unassigned private eye. Phil Austen, Peter Bergman, David Ossman and Phil Proctor are writing... ABC is doing a pilot with L.A. improv comedy group OFF THE WALL for a late night slot. A number of the members have appeared on MORK AND MINDY in minor rolls (and, if memory serves me, Robin Williams was once a member)... Dick Clark is doing THE BIRTH OF THE BEATLES beginning in June. Undoubtedly, none of the original "cast" will be involved -- but let's hope they get a cut at least, huh?... Some slight improvement to the MARY show gave me some hope until CBS and MTM announced that they were forgetting variety and going back to sitcom next season (that's 1980-81). Let's hope it's on film, and not tape -- tape destroys too many illusions in more ways than one. Michael Keaton, probably the only good thing about the MARY show, is getting his chance to star next season with Jim Belushi in WORKING STIFFS, a Paramount show in which they'll attempt something of a Three Stooges or Abbott and Costello multi-job format. (It'll be my first glimpse of Belushi, since Milwaukee didn't see WHO'S WATCHING THE KIDS.) Besides TRAPPER JOHN, M.D., which should be of the same tone as LOU GRANT in comedy-drama, the only other bright spots for comedy fans would seem to be ABC's THE ASSOCIATES from the TAXI people, CBS's THE LAST RESORT from MTM (with Zane Lasky who played Mario Lanza on TONY RANDALL) and CBS's STRUCK BY LIGHTNING with Jack Elam as Frankenstein's monster in today's world, from Paramount. But (ahem), those are only my predictions.

- Rona Blabbit

Archie Coming Comics

ARCHIE AND ME No. 112, August. [5/22]

ARCHIE'S GIANT SERIES MAGAZINE No. 483, August. This issue features ARCHIE'S JOKES. [5/22]

ARCHIE'S JOKEBOOK No. 259, August. [5/22]

ARCHIE'S PALS 'N' GALS No. 134, August. [5/22]

BETTY AND VERONICA No. 284, August. [5/22]

PEP No. 352, August. [5/22]

ARCHIE No. 283, August. [5/29]

JUGHEAD No. 291, August. [5/29]

LAUGH No. 341, August. [5/29]

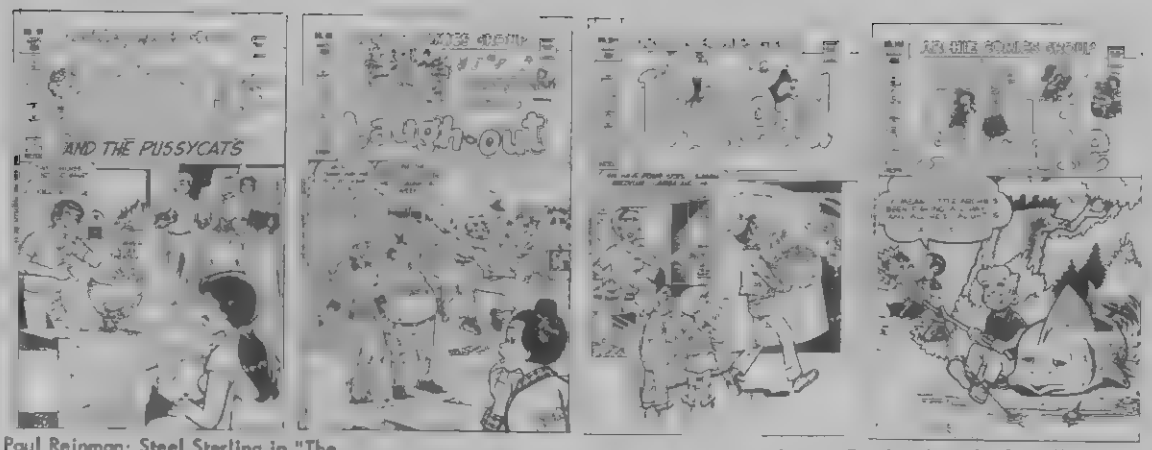
LITTLE ARCHIE No. 145, August. [5/29]

REGGIE AND ME No. 116, August. [5/29]

REGGIE'S WISE-GUY JOKES No. 50, August. [5/29]

ARCHIE COMICS DIGEST No. 37, August. [6/5]

ARCHIE'S SUPER HERO COMICS DIGEST MAGAZINE No. 2, August. This second collection of Archie-Radio-Mighty super-hero stories contains what was to be the contents of the never-published BLACK HOOD #1: "Origin" by Gray Morrow, "The Black Hood Hits A Sour Note" by Marv Channing and Al McWilliams, "It's Murder To Beat The Odds" by Channing and McWilliams, and "Life's Not Like A Comic Book" by Neal Adams and Dick Giordano. Reprints include: Pvt. Strong as The Shield in "The Menace Of The Micro-Men" and "The Ultra Sonic Spies," both by Joe Simon and Jack Kirby; The Fly in "The Lady And The Monster" by John Rosenberger and "The Fly Meets The Cat Girl" by John Giunta; The Jaguar in "The Death-Ray From Space" by Rosenberger; Hangman in "The Nine Lives Of Falseface" by Jerry Siegel and



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Paul Reinman; Steel Sterling in "The Awesome Bravo" by Siegel and Reinman; The Web in "Uglyman's Ugliest Plot" by Siegel and Reinman; The Fox in "The Gasser Attacks" by Siegel and Reinman; and a Superteen story and a Pureheart the Powerful tale. Non-hero stories meant for the old SORCERY title appearing for the first time include "The Ultimate Power" by Wally Wood, "Time Twist" by Tom DeFalco and Chic Stone, and "The Beast In The Forest" by DeFalco and Jesse Santos. [6/5]

BETTY AND ME No. 104, August. [6/5]

LIFE WITH ARCHIE No. 207, August. [6/5]

SABRINA, THE TEEN-AGE WITCH No. 54, August. [6/5]

THAT WILKIN BOY No. 45, August. [6/5]

ARCHIE... ARCHIE ANDREWS, WHERE ARE YOU COMICS DIGEST No. 11, August. [6/12]

ARCHIE AT RIVERDALE HIGH No. 65, August. [6/12]

ARCHIE'S TV LAUGHOUT No. 69, August. [6/12]

EVERYTHING'S ARCHIE No. 77, August. [6/12]

JOSIE AND THE PUSSYCATS No. 99, August. [6/12]

MAD HOUSE COMICS No. 117, August. [6/12]

MAD HOUSE COMICS DIGEST No. 5, August. [6/12]

Marvel Comics

DAREDEVIL No. 160, September. "In The Hands Of Bullseye" is by Roger McKenzie, Frank Miller and Klaus Janson. Bullseye captures the Black Widow -- and Daredevil goes a'hunting. Miller and Janson did the cover. [6/5]

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES No. 83, September. Reprinted from INCREDIBLE HULK #131 is "A Titan Stalks The Tenements" by Roy Thomas, Herb Trimpe and John Severin. [6/5]

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MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE No. 55, September. "Giants In The Earth" is by Mark Gruenwald, Ralph Macchio, John Byrne and Joe Sinnott. Giant Man and The Thing battle Nuklo deep within the innermost recesses of Project:Pegasus. Keith Pollard and Sinnott did the cover. [6/5]

THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN No. 43, August. "King Thoth-Amon" is by Roy Thomas, John Buscema and Tony DeZuniga. The concluding chapter of the adaptation of L. Sprague De Camp and Lin Carter's CONAN THE BUCCANEER is presented. "Against The Legions" is by Thomas and Dave Wenzel, and features Bran Mak Morn and King Kull against the Roman legions. [6/5]

SHOGUN WARRIORS No. 8, September. "Cerebus And The Skyfall" is by Doug Moench, Herb Trimpe and Mike Esposito. Raydeen continues his bout with Cerebus while Olongo Savage Investigates a strange meteor. Trimpe and Al Milgrom did the cover. [6/5]

SPIDER-WOMAN No. 18, September. "Sins Of The Flesh" is by Mark Gruenwald, Carmine Infantino and Mike Esposito. Spider-Woman has a final confrontation with the Wax Man. Bob Budiansky and Tom Palmer did the cover. [6/5]

SPIDEY SUPER STORIES No. 42, September. [6/5]

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN No. 196, September. "Requiem" is by Marv Wolfman, Al Milgrom and Jim Mooney. Spider-Man goes to the Restwell Funeral Home to see about Aunt May's death. Keith Pollard and Milgrom did the cover. [6/12]

BATTLESTAR GALACTICA No. 7, September. "All Things Past And Present" is by Roger McKenzie, Rich Buckler and Klaus Janson. While Adama is in the memory machine, his loyal crew tries to prevent Sire Uri from seizing control. Buckler and Janson did the cover. [6/12]

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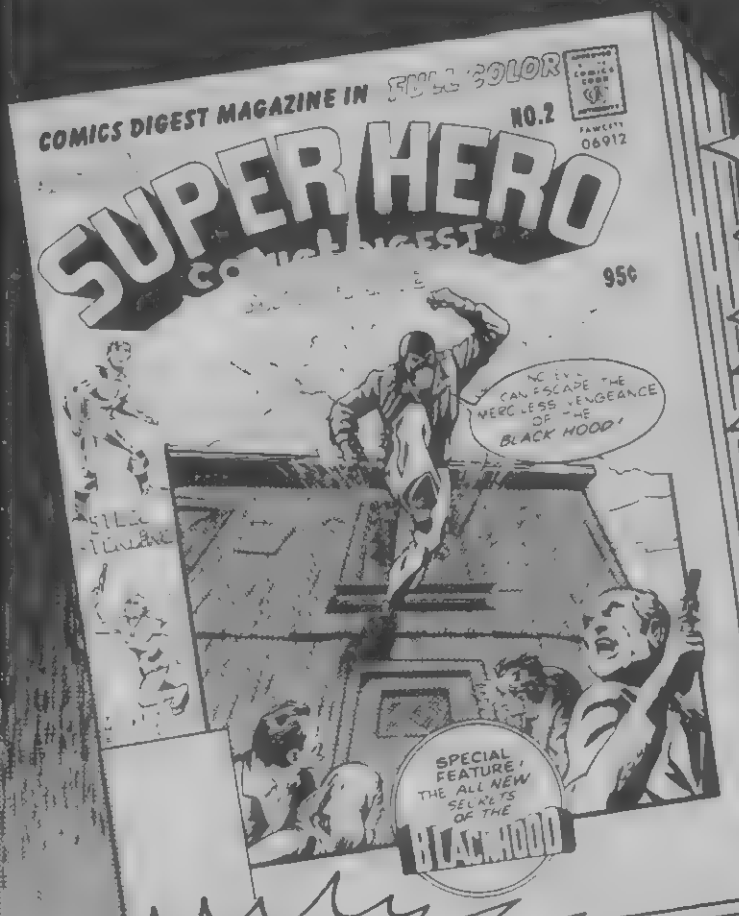

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BROTHER BILLY, THE PAIN FROM PLAINS, one-shot. This magazine is apparently unrelated to Marvel's creative staff, and the only thing we know is that it was written by comedian Joey Adams. [6/12]

CAPTAIN AMERICA No. 237, September. "From The Ashes" is by Chris Claremont, Roger McKenzie, Sal Buscema and Don Perlin. The final fate of Sharon Carter is revealed and Cap

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begins his new life in a better neighborhood. Keith Pollard and Al Milgrom did the cover. [6/12]

CRAZY No. 53, September. [6/12]

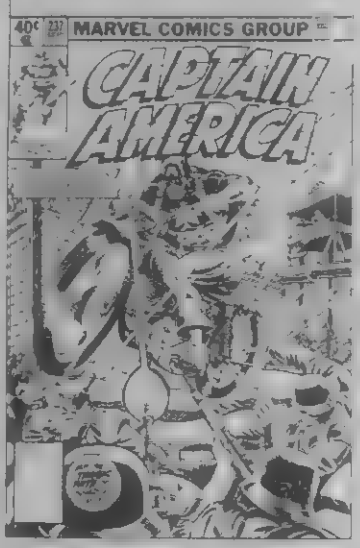
FUN AND GAMES MAGAZINE No. 1, September. The previously announced puzzles and mazes magazine by Owen McCarron appears this month. [6/12]

THE MICRONAUTS No. 9, September. "Home Is Where The Heart Is" is by Bill Mantlo, Mike Golden and Al Milgrom. Acroyear's homeworld -- and his visage -- are revealed. Golden did the cover. [6/12]

THE AVENGERS No. 187, September. "The Call Of The Mountain Thing" is by Mark Gruenwald, Steve Grant, David Michelinie, John Byrne and Dan Green. In the third (and final) part of the Quicksilver-Scarlet Witch origin story, The Avengers fall prey to the forces of Chthon, demon of Wundagorr Mountain. Byrne and Terry Austin did the cover. [6/19]

CONAN THE BARBARIAN No. 102, September. "The Men Who Drink Blood" is by Roy Thomas, John Buscema and Ernie Chan. Conan investigates a weird tribe of pseudo-vampires. Buscema and Al Milgrom did the cover. [6/19]

THE INCREDIBLE HULK No. 239, September. "All That Glitters" is by Roger Stern, Sal Buscema and Mike Esposito. The U.S. Army confronts the Hulk atop Mount Rushmore to prevent his, uh, breaking it, when enters -- Goldbug. Al Milgrom did the cover. [6/19]



THE INVADERS No. 41, September. "Beware The Super-Axis" is by Don Glut, Alan Kupperberg and Chic Stone. The stockpiled issues of this magazine are turned into a double-sized issue which is a free-for-all featuring The Invaders, Baron Blood, U-Man, Lady Lotus, Warrior Woman, Master Man and a renegade Human Torch. Al Milgrom did the cover of this final issue. [6/19]

MARVEL SUPER SPECIAL No. 11, September. "Warriors Of The Shadow Realm" is by Doug Moench, John Buscema, Rudy Nebres and Pete Ledger. The much-ballyhooed and long-awaited WEIRDWORLD finally appears in the first of a three-issue run with the detailing of a quest for the Five Darkland Gems. Buscema, Nebres and Ledger did the cover. [6/19]

MARVEL TALES No. 107, September. "Betrayed!" by Gerry Conway, Ross Andru and Frank Giacoia and Dave Hunt is reprinted from THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #130. Romita did the original cover. [6/19]

THOR No. 287, September. "Assault On Olympus" is by Roy Thomas, Keith Pollard and Chic Stone. Thor enters Olympus just in time to enter the Olympics and is forced to fight a forgotten hero. Pollard and Bob Layton did the cover. [6/19]

X-MEN No. 125, September. "There's Something Awful On Muir Island" is by Chris Claremont, John Byrne and Terry Austin. Phoenix returns, there's peril in the Danger Room, and a mystery

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begins concerning Mutant X. Dave Cockrum and Austin did the cover. [6/19]

THE DEFENDERS No. 75, September. "Poetic Justice" is by Ed Hannigan, Herb Trimpe and Mike Esposito. The second part of the Foolkiller sequence leads into the wrap-up of the Omega series. Trimpe and Al Milgrom did the cover. [6/26]

FANTASTIC FOUR No. 210, September. "In Search Of Galactus" is by Marv Wolfman, John Byrne and Joe Sinnott. The FF find Galactus's ship -- now how do they capture the big guy's attention? Keith Pollard and Sinnott did the cover. [6/26]

THE HULK! No. 16, September. "Masks" is by Doug Moench and Mike Zeck. Hulk travels to New Orleans and gets involved in mystery. Also included is a Rudy Nebres Hulk portfolio and an article on Marvel's live-action heroes. Earl Norem did the cover. [6/26]

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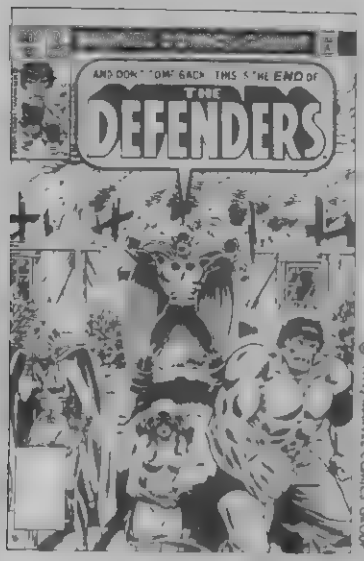
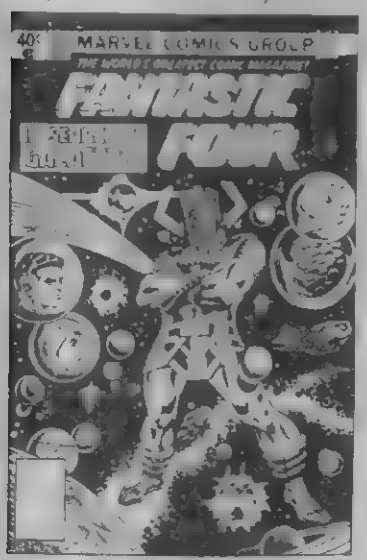


IRON MAN No. 126, September. "The Hammer Strikes" is by David Michelinie, John Romita, Jr. and Bob Layton. Tony Stark is captured by the guy called Hammer and an army of supervillains assemble in the Mediterranean. Romita and Layton did the cover. [6/26]

JOHN CARTER, WARLORD OF MARS No. 27, September. "Marathon Of Death" is by Chris Claremont, Mike Vosburg and Many Hands. The second penultimate issue of this year (no mean feat, that) concludes the Master Assassin of Mars saga with Chapter 12 and a surprise ending. Bob Budiansky and Joe Sinnott did the cover. [6/26]

MARVEL SPOTLIGHT No. 2, September. "The Dark Corners" is by Doug Moench, Pat Broderick and Bruce Patterson. Featuring: The Battle of the Titans. Captain Marvel's final confrontation with Issac. The fate of Drax the Destroyer. A party for the survivors. A wake for the losers. A free toaster if you deposit $50 before... (uh, doctor?) Frank Miller and Terry Austin did the cover. [6/26]



MARVEL TEAM-UP No. 85, September. "The Woman Who Never Was" is by Chris Claremont, Sal Buscema and Steve Leialoha. This is the last part of the Spider-Man-Black Widow team-up. Allen Milgrom did the cover. [6/26]

MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE ANNUAL No. 4, September. "Mission Of Gravity" is by Allan Brodsky, David Michelinie, Jim Craig, Bob Budiansky and Bruce Patterson. The Thing and Black Bolt must battle to save New York from a maddened Graviton. Guest star: Jarvis the Butler. Joe Sinnott did the cover. [6/26]

MASTER OF KUNG FU No. 80, September. "The Pride Of Leopards" is by Doug Moench, Mike Zeck and Gene Day. Shang-Chi and co. try to make contact with a secret agent in Victoria Station, but Fu Manchu's leopard cult stands in their way. Zeck and Day did the cover. [6/26]

THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN No. 34, September. "Lizard On A Hot Tin Roof" is by Bill Mantlo, Jim Mooney and Frank Springer. This issue wraps up the reptilian trilogy. Al Milgrom did the cover. [6/26]

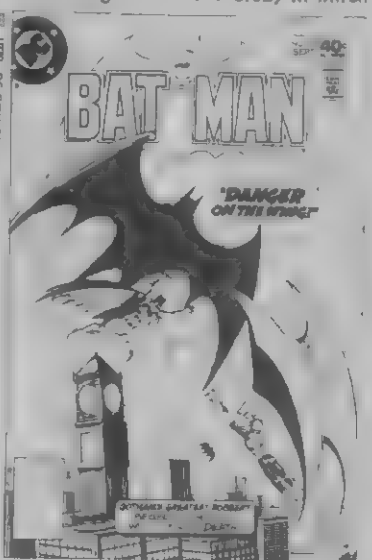
STAR WARS No. 27, September. "Return Of The Hunter" is by Archie Goodwin, Carmine Infantino and Bob Wiacek. Valance the Bounty-Hunter battles Luke and C3PO, who are trying to find parts to repair R2D2. Infantino and Wiacek did the cover. [6/26]

TARZAN No. 28, September. "Flight Into Fear" is by Bill Mantlo, Sal Buscema and Ricardo Villamonte. Tarzan, Jane and Korak go to the top of the Empire State Building where Tarzan

battles a bi-plane (predating Kong, if my math is right). John Buscema and Bob McLeod did the cover. [6/26]

DC Comics

ALL-OUT WAR No. 1, September-October. The lead character in this new dollar book is The Viking Commando who debuts in "D-Day For A Viking" by Robert Kanigher and George Evans. Is he a real viking or just a looney that battles machine guns, tanks and planes with an iron ax, a knife and his bare hands, giving new meaning to macho! Next, Lt. Cassius Bannister and a squadron of black fighter pilots called the Black Eagle Squadron star in "Brother With Wings" by Kanigher, Dick Ayers and Romeo Tanghal, battling the Germans over Italy and the bigotry of their comrades. Gunner and Sarge (and Pooch) return to their own solo feature with "Cardboard Marine" by Evan Dougtas and E.R. Cruz, in which



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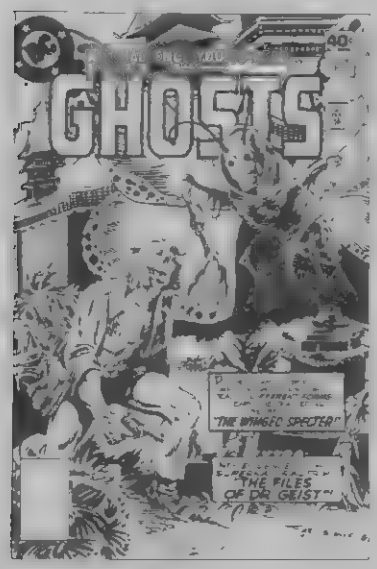
they search for the ideal marine for a recruiting poster. "To Honor The Hero" is by J M. DeMatteis, Dick Ayers and Romeo Tanghal and involves a college football star forced to play a deadly game for sadistic Japanese forces. And finally, Force Three, a guerilla group, star in their origin story, "Funeral For A Guerilla Fighter" by Robert Kanigher and Jerry Grandenetti. Joe Kubert did the cover. [6/5]

BATMAN No. 315, September. "Danger On The Wing" is by Len Wein, Irv Novick and Frank McLaughlin. Batman faces the devices of a foe he faced before in #133: The Kite-Man. Dick Giordano did the cover. [6/5]

THE BEST OF DC Blue Ribbon Digest No. 1, September-October. Superman is the star of DC's return to digests, and this issue features: "The Army Of Tomorrow" from SUPERMAN #265 by Elliot Maggin, Curt Swan and Murphy Anderson; "The Midnight Murder Show" by Cary Bates, Curt Swan and Kurt Schaffenberger from ACTION COMICS #442; "Superman Under The Red Sun" by Al Plastino from ACTION #300; "The Death of Superman" from SUPERMAN #149 by Jerry Siegel, Swan and George Klein; and "The Adventures of Mental Man" by Wayne Boring from ACTION #196. Also



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featured are feature pages about Superman and Clark Kent's costumes, the Rogues' Gallery, Super-Plops and "The Great Superman Graffiti Game." Dick Giordano did the cover. [6/5]

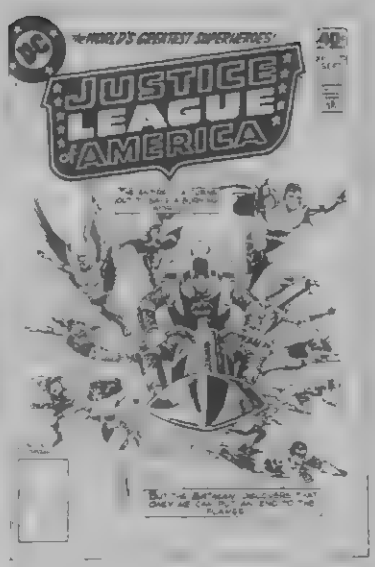
DC COMICS PRESENTS No. 13, September. "To Live In Peace -- Nevermore" is by Paul Levitz, Dick Dillin and Dick Giordano. Superman teams up with no one, but runs into the Legion of Super-Heroes a thousand years from now who want an interplanetary war to continue to kill billions despite his objections. Dillin and Giordano did the cover. [6/5]

THE FLASH No. 277, September. "The Self-Destruct Flash" is by Cary Bates, Alex Saviuk and Frank Chiaramonte. With Iris dead, Barry can't handle things and decides to kill himself. Dick Giordano did the cover. [6/5]

GHOSTS No. 80, September. Featured stories include: "Drum Roll Of Death" by Sam Glanzman; "The Winged Specter" by Nestor Malgapo; and "The Ghost's Last Request." Joe Orlando did the cover. [6/5]

JONAH HEX No. 28, September. "Night Of The Savage" is by Michael Fleisher and E.R. Cruz. Jonah tracks a murderous Indian until he discovers the reason for his rampage. Luis Dominguez did the cover. [6/5]

JONAH HEX AND OTHER WESTERN TALES Blue Ribbon Digest No. 1, September-October. The Jonah Hex stor-



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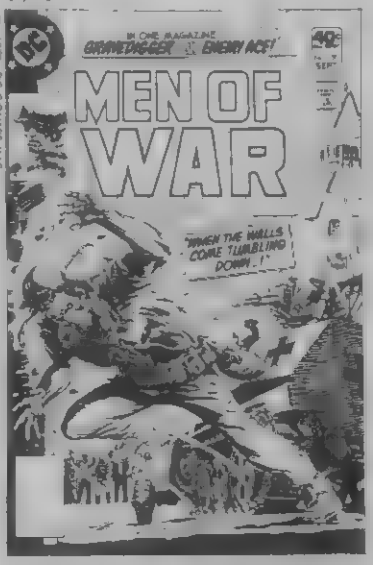
ies in this issue are "The Hundred Dollar Deal" by John Albano and Tony DeZuniga from ALL-STAR WESTERN #11; "The Point Pyrrhus Massacre" and "The Point Pyrrhus Aftermath" by Michael Fleisher, Russell Carley, Tony DeZuniga and Noly Panaligan from WEIRD WESTERN TALES #23-24. Also featured are El Diablo in "Night Of The Living Dead" by Cary Bates and Neal Adams from WEIRD WESTERN #13, Billy The Kid in ""Bullet For A Gambler" by John Albano and DeZuniga, and the origin of Scalphunter by Michael Fleisher, Dick Ayers and George Evans. Luis Dominguez did the cover painting. [6/5]



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JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA No. 170, September. "While A World Lies Burning" is by Gerry Conway, Dick Dillin and Frank McLaughlin. The world is burning up, the ocean level is falling, the JLA is facing charges by Ultraa in World Court, and the Unmerged Man looms on the horizon. What hope is there? Dillin and Dick Giordano did the cover. [6/5]

MEN OF WAR No. 20, September. "Cry: Jericho" is by Jack C. Harris, Dick Ayers and Romeo Tanghal. Gravedigger attempts to elude Nazi occupation forces. Enemy Ace stars in "Death Must Wait" by Robert Kanigher and Howard Chaykin. Joe Kubert did the cover. [6/5]

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SECRETS OF HAUNTED HOUSE No. 28, September. Stories include: "Beware Of 13" by Carl Wessler and Tenny Hanson; "Ice Cold Corpse" by Al Case and Lee Elias; and "Water, Water Every Fear" by Tom DeFalco and Jess Jodloman. Michael Kaluta did the cover. [6/5]

THE SUPERMAN FAMILY No. 197, September. In the first issue with advertising, the story count is down to five, including: "Superboy's Split Personality" by Cary Bates, Kurt Schaffenberger and Joe Giella; Lois Lane in "The Daughter Who Came C.O.D." by Gerry Conway, Bob Oksner and Vince Colletta; "Clark Kent's Mynah Dilemma" by Bates, Schaffenberger and Dave Hunt; Jimmy Olsen in "Ghost Writer Riddle"

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by Conway, Don Heck and Colletta; and Supergirl in "The Man With The Eternity Hands" by Jack C. Harris, Heck and Giella. Jose Luis Garcia Lopez did the cover. [6/5]

WEIRD WAR TALES No. 79, September. This issue features "Solo Mission" by Bob Rozakis, Romeo Tanghal and Frank Chiaramonte, in which a G.I. attacks a fortified Japanese stronghold with bizarre results; "The Gods Themselves" by J.M. DeMatteis and Jess Jodloman, in which a Roman galley captain is challenged by Neptune himself; and

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"Spy's House" by Rozakis and Jerry Grandenetti, in which a Nazi spy attempts to set up a base in an allied town. Joe Kubert did the cover. [6/5]

WORLD OF KRYPTON No. 3, September. "Krypton's Last Days" is by Paul Kupperberg, Howard Chaykin and Murphy Anderson. Krypton's final days are recounted -- a story in which every reader knows the eventual outcome already. Ross Andru and Dick Giordano did the cover. [6/5]

ACTION COMICS No. 499, September. "As The World Turns... For The Last Time" is by Cary Bates, Curt Swan and Vince Colletta. Superman and

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Vartox join forces to prevent the end of the world. (I wonder if they succeed?) Ross Andru and Dick Giordano did the cover. [6/19]

ADVENTURE COMICS No. 465, September-October. The Flash leads off in "Who Is Invading Central City?" by Cary Bates, Don Heck and Joe Giella. Deadman follows with "Brick Battleground" by Len Wein, Jose Garcia Lopez and Dick Giordano. Then, the Justice Society have to track a deadly poison that disappears from Gotham hospital in "Countdown To Disaster" by Paul Levitz, Joe Staton and Dave Hunt. And Aquaman comes upon undersea Nazis in "Ice Pact" by Bob Rozakis, Don Newton and Dan Adkins. Jim Aparo did the cover. [6/19]

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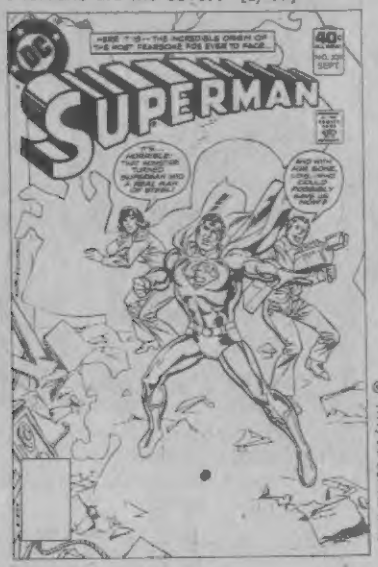
THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD No. 154, September. "Pathway Of Doom" is by Bob Haney and Jim Aparo. Batman and Metamorpho team-up again to track down their objective on a trip around the world. Aparo did the cover. [6/19]

GREEN LANTERN No. 120, September. "Double Danger, Certain Death" is by Denny O'Neil, Don Heck and John Celardo. Green Lantern and Green Arrow must face the sorcery of the golden sword of El Espectro. Dick Giordano did the cover. [6/19]



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HOUSE OF MYSTERY No. 272, September. Featured tales are: "The Deprogrammer" by J.M. DeMatteis and Ruben Yandoc; "Take Three Wishes" by Scott Edelman and Jack Abel; and "The Sorcerer's Castle" by Michael Uslan, Don Newton and Dan Adkins, set in the days of the Vikings. Joe Orlando did the cover. [6/19]

SGT. ROCK No. 332, September. "Pyramid of Death" is by Robert Kanigher and Frank Redondo. Rock and Easy are buried alive in Africa. Also featured is "Dead Reckoning" by Kanigher and Rick Veitch. Joe Kubert did the cover. [6/19]

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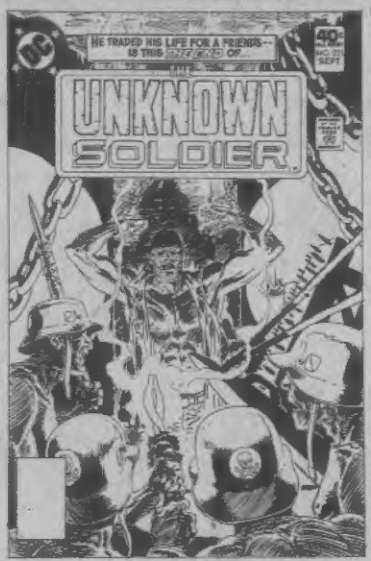
SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES No. 255, September. "The Super-Spectacles Swipe" is by Gerry Conway, Joe Staton and Dave Hunt. While Superboy heads for the future, the rest of the Legion travels to Krypton to ask Jor-El for his help. Dick Giordano did the cover. [6/19]

SUPER FRIENDS No. 24, September. "Past, Present And Danger" is by Denny O'Neil, Ramona Fradon and Bob Smith. Twins of the Wondertwins show up, first on two Pyramids, then inside a spaceship, and these twins are up to no good. Fradon and Smith did the cover. [6/19]

SUPERMAN No. 339, September. "Nuclear Nightmare" is by Len Wein, Curt Swan and Frank Chiaramonte. A nuclear-born menace bad enough to create a Man of Steel (literally) out of Superman is revealed. Ross Andru and Dick Giordano did the cover. [6/19]

THE UNEXPECTED No. 193, September-October. The nine stories in this issue



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are: "Secret Of The Dead Man's Diary" by Carl Wessler and Noly Zamora; "Dead Heat" by George Kashdan and Ruben Yandoc; "Don't Monkey With Murder" by Kashdan and Franc Reyes; "Garden Of Death" by Wessler and Zamora; "The Beautiful and the Damned" by Jack Oleck, Romeo Tanghal and John Workman; "Midnight Muzak" by Scott Edelman and Yandoc; "Flame Of Death" by Murray (Al Case) Boltinoff and Johnny O. Ingente; "Give A Great Big Smile To Satan" by Kashdan and John Calnan; and "Moonlight And Mayhem" by Wessler and Doug Wildey. Luis Dominguez did the cover. [6/19]

UNKNOWN SOLDIER No. 231, September. "Bridge Of No Return" is by Bob Haney, Dick Ayers and Gerry Talaoc. Unk must surrender to the Germans to save a fellow spy. Joe Kubert did the cover. [6/19]

WARLORD No. 25, September. "This Sword For Hire" is by Mike Grell and Vince Colletta. Travis and a band of mercenary soldiers are attacked by a giant ice demon while looking for a deserter. Grell did the cover. [6/19]

WEIRD WESTERN TALES No. 59, September. "The Search" is by Michael Fleisher, Dick Ayers and Romeo Tanghal. Everyone wants gold, and Scalphunter is caught in the middle. Luis Dominguez did the cover. [6/19]

WONDER WOMAN No. 259, September. "A Power Gone Mad" is by Gerry Conway, Jose Delbo and Vince Colletta. Mars takes over Olympus and declares war on the Amazon Warrior. Jose Delbo and Dick Giordano did the cover. [6/19]

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